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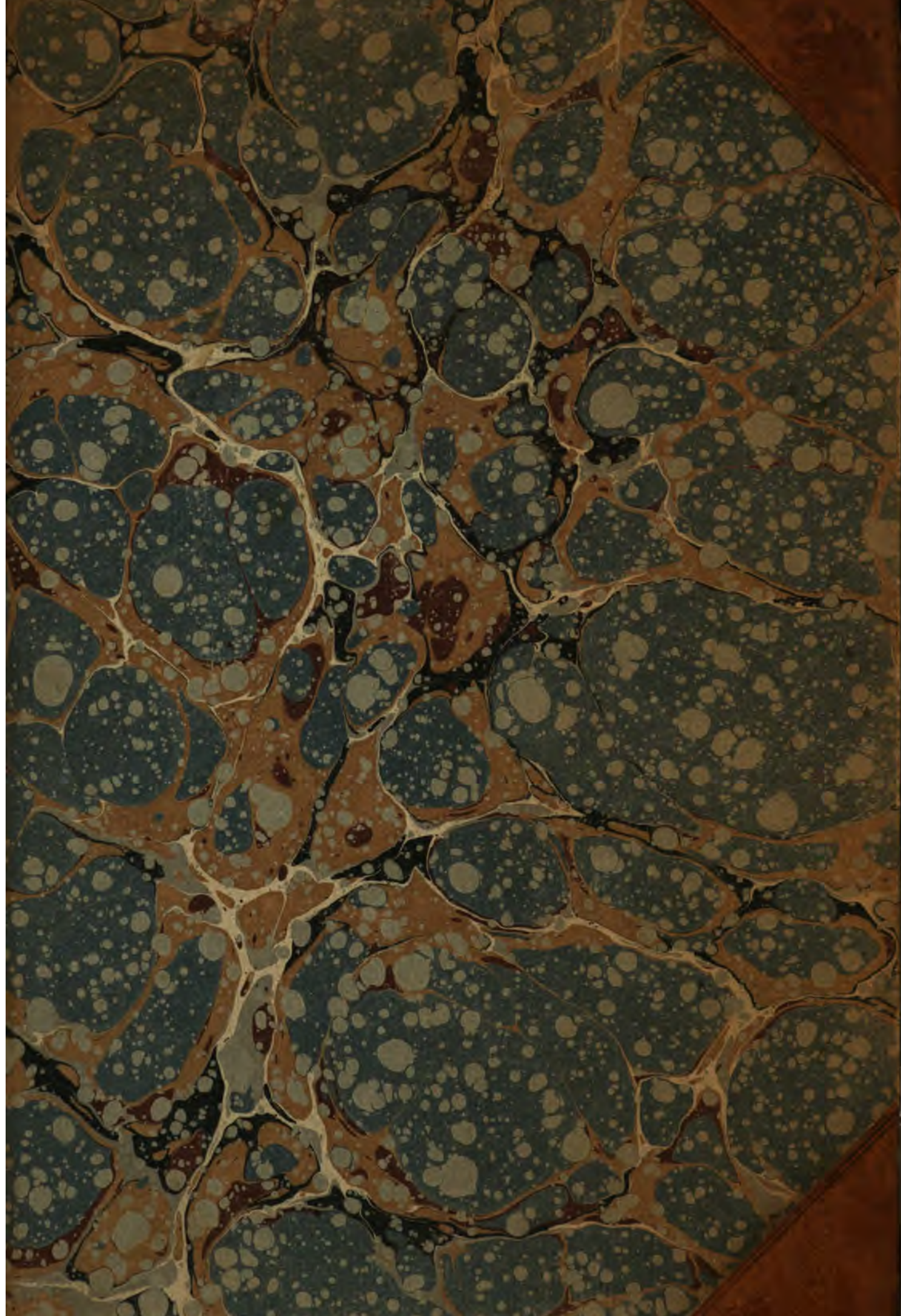
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F. P. Barnard
Feb. 20. 1903.



Francis Pierrepont Barnard,
M.A. Oxon., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A.Scot.



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F. P. Barnard
Feb. 20. 1909.



Francis Pierrepont Barnard,

M.A. Oxon., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A. Scot.



302163524Q

SIMON'S ESSAY
ON
I R I S H C O I N S,
AND OF THE
CURRENCY OF FOREIGN MONIES
IN
I R E L A N D;

WITH
MR. SNELLING'S SUPPLEMENT:

ALSO,
AN ADDITIONAL PLATE,

CONTAINING
NINETEEN COINS,
NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.



DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR THE EDITORS,
BY
G. A. Procter.
1810.



NOV. - 1931

4075

ADVERTISEMENT.

MR. SIMON's excellent Treatise on Irish Coins having become very scarce, from the small number of copies printed, the Editors are induced to give this new Edition to the Public, together with the Supplement, begun by the late ingenious Mr. **SNELLING**, and completed and published in London after his death in the Year 1767, and to which they have also added a Plate, and description of several Coins discovered since Mr. **SIMON's** death, or that escaped his, or Mr. **SNELLING's** observation; with the exception of Numbers 11, 12, 13 and 14, they are all in the possession of a friend, from whose collection they have been faithfully copied.

Had the Editors entertained any reasonable hope that the subject would be taken up by abler hands, they would not have presumed to present the work to the Public in its present imperfect form; but not conceiving themselves competent to the task of new modelling the whole, they have given the Work and the Supplement, as originally published, trusting at the same time, that their efforts to rescue from oblivion the only Publications on Irish Coinage worthy of notice, will be the means of stimulating others to take up this neglected branch of national antiquities, and at some future period give to the Public a more finished performance.

AN
E S S A Y
TOWARDS AN
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT
OF
I R I S H C O I N S,
AND OF THE
CURRENCY OF FOREIGN MONIES
IN
I R E L A N D.
WITH AN
A P P E N D I X:
CONTAINING SEVERAL
STATUTES, PROCLAMATIONS, PATENTS, ACTS OF STATE, AND LETTERS
RELATING TO THE SAME.

DISCITE QUID ASPER UTILE NUMMUS HABET.

PERS. SAT. 3, 69.

Revised. Second Edition

By JAMES SIMON, of DUBLIN, MERCHANT, F. R. S.

DUBLIN:

PRINTED BY S. POWELL,
FOR THE AUTHOR, IN FLEET-STREET;

1749:

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1810.

At a GENERAL MEETING of the PHYSICO-HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
MONDAY, JANUARY the 4th, 1747.

DR. BARRY IN THE CHAIR.

PRESENT,

LORD CHANCELLOR, LORD BISHOP OF MEATH, LORD BISHOP OF
CLOGHER, &c. &c. &c.

ON the Report made by *WALTER, HARRIS, Esq;* That he and the Reverend
Dr. CORBET, Dean of St. *PATRICK'S*, had perused Mr. *SIMON'S ESSAY ON*
IRISH COINS, which was referred to them:

AGREED,

THAT the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. *SIMON*, for the Pains and
Care he hath taken; and that he be, and is hereby desired to publish the said
ESSAY, together with his Collection of Records concerning *Irish Coins* and the
Currency of Money in *Ireland*, with the Approbation of the Society.

EDW. BARRY, V. PRESID.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,

R O B E R T

LORD NEWPORT,

LORD CHANCELLOR,

AND

ONE OF THE LORDS JUSTICES OF IRELAND,

PRESIDENT OF THE PHYSICO-HISTORICAL-SOCIETY, IN DUBLIN.

MY LORD,

EVERY Attempt to contribute to the service of the Public, naturally lays claim to Your Excellency's patronage; and Your obliging readiness to become President of a Society, whose principal views are to procure materials for compiling a general History of Ireland, seems particularly to authorize the liberty of presenting to Your Excellency the following Essay, as subservient to that design.

To Your Excellency's great goodness to the Author, in procuring him access to several of the offices of Record, he is indebted for whatever may be thought curious in it; and from Your protection, My Lord, he presumes to hope for the indulgence of the Public to the sincere, however imperfect, Endeavours of a Foreigner to render

DEDICATION.

himself in some degree useful to the Country in which Providence has been pleased to fix him.

Interested, as by adoption he is, in her prosperity, he cannot fail to wish, that Your Excellency may long continue to adorn those high Stations in which You are placed, with that integrity, application, sagacity and knowledge, which give weight to Power; and that temper, benevolence, and candor, which render the most *respectable* Characters the most *amiable*.

Permit me, My Lord, to subscribe my self with the most grateful and profound respect,

YOUR EXCELLENCY'S

most obliged,

most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

JAMES SIMON.

P R E F A C E.

THE knowledge of antient Coins is not merely a matter of curiosity, but of use; it has a manifest relation to Sciences, such as Chronology, Antiquities and History, and serves to ascertain and illustrate them. For Coins, no less than Medals, "give " a great light to History, in confirming such passages as are true, in settling such " as are told after different manners, and in recording such as have been omitted" *. The truth of which will, I conceive, appear from facts in dispute amongst our Historians, which are now settled and confirmed by the evidence of some of the Coins mentioned in the following Essay. This kind of Study is so confessedly interesting, that many treatises on this subject have been published in several of our neighbouring countries; witness those of Bouteroue & Le Blanc, on the French coins, of Thomas Broeder Bircherod, on the Danish, of Elias Brenner, on the Swedish, and of M. Folkes and S. M. Leake, Esqrs. on the English. But we have not as yet any particular treatise on the Monies of this Kingdom. There are indeed two curious but very short chapters on Irish Coins, one in the Antiquities of Ireland, by Sir James Ware, the other in the Irish-Historical Library, by Bishop Nicholson; the conciseness of which induced me to draw up (at first only for my own amusement and instruction) some observations upon what they had written on that subject: And although I have been enabled to make several additions from very curious Coins and Records, which they had not seen, I cannot give my Reader a truer, as I cannot wish to give him a more favourable account of this Essay, than that it is chiefly the work of these two learned Antiquaries; and as such I presume to recommend it to his perusal. If I have at any time ventured to dissent from these great Men, I have given the reasons, sometimes I confess but conjectural, that determined my opinion, which I freely submit to better information.

* Addison's Dialogues on antient Medals, p. 20

It is almost impossible to give a perfect History of our Montes for want of sufficient records, many of which have been destroyed by time and various accidents. In order to preserve what are left concerning this Subject, as far as a work of this kind can contribute to that end, it has been thought proper to publish by way of Appendix those that are still in being, as materials for such as shall hereafter undertake to give us a better and more perfect account of these matters.

As for the Coins exhibited in the Plates, besides my own, I have had the advantage of consulting the several collections of Trinity College, of James Ware, John Putland, and Ralph Howard, Esqrs. and of Mr. Henry Archdall. I take this opportunity to return my humble thanks to them, and to those gentlemen who have been pleased to communicate such other materials as could not come to my knowledge without their assistance.

It now remains for me to beg the Reader's indulgence and forgiveness for the many imperfections in the language and performance, and that, as an atonement for both, he will accept of my sincere desire of being in some degree useful to a country, now become my own.

AN
E S S A Y
TOWARDS AN
HISTORICAL ACCOUNT
OF
IRISH COINS, &c.

ALTHOUGH we cannot trace out the first Invention of money in Ireland, yet it cannot be denied, that it was in use here long before the arrival of the Danes, or Norwegians. The Irish word *Monadh*^a, as well as the other appellative words, used (with little variation in the pronounciation) in most of the antient and modern languages to signify money, seem to be derived from one and the same origin, the Hebrew *Monah*, or *Minch*^b, the name both of a weight, and of a kind of money, worth a hundred *Denarii*^c: the *Minch* of gold being worth a hundred shekels. Besides this, we find in the Irish many mercantile and other words derived from the Hebrew, which, as they shew the Antiquity of the Irish, and its affinity to that mother tongue, denote likewise the early use of trade, and of money in Ireland; into which, no doubt, it was introduced as soon as inhabited, or at least frequented by other trading nations; the country affording gold, silver, and other metals^d, which perhaps were soon discovered by the first Inhabitants.

^a *Monadh*, *Pecunia*, Money. Llyd Irish-Dictionary. The Irish *Airgead*, used at present for the English word money, originally and properly signifies *Argentum*, silver, and was not probably made use of to design money, until the use of silver coins was introduced into Ireland, when in all likelihood, such money was called by way of distinction from iron or copper money, *Monadh na Airgead*, and in process of time for brevity sake, *Airgead*, for money of silver.

^b *Mina* est nomen ponderis & monetæ habentis centum denarios, & centum siclos auri. Schindler's Lexicon-Pentaglot.

^c The *Denarius*, denier, according to Greaves and Arbuthnot, weighed 62 grains, and would be worth of our present money, about 7½d.

^d —————stannique fodinas

Et puri Argenti venas, quas terra refossis
Visceribus manes imos visura recludit.

Hadrianus Junius in Ware's Antiquit.

- A. M. We find that in the reign of Tighernmhais Mac Fallamhuin^a, the tenth monarch
 3011. of the Milesian race, Gold ore was discovered, and refined at Fothart, near the river Liffy, in the county of Wicklow, where gold, silver, copper, lead and iron, have of late years been found out. And a mint is said to have been erected, and silver
 3482. money first coined in Ireland, in the time of Eadna-Deargh^b. From this observation, that silver-money was then first struck, we may reasonably conclude that money of some kind or other, whether of iron or copper, was in use before that time; and indeed we find that in the reign of Sednæus-Innaradh, the soldiers wages were paid in
 3453. money, wheat, and cloathes^c. 'Tis also very probable that this island was known to the Phœnicians, who used to resort to Britain for tin, which no doubt was likewise found in Ireland^d; though those mines seem to have been lost for some ages past. But most certain it is, that this country was famous, in the beginning of the Roman empire; for Tacitus, speaking comparatively of Britain and Ireland, says of the latter, that it was better known by its trade and commerce, by its easy resort, and the goodness of its harbours, than the first^e. And when the Roman arms had reached Spain, Gaul, and Germany, abundance of people must have retired out of those countries into this, and brought with them what riches they could save, together with their trade, arts and sciences; for which reason, the Romans had a coveting eye on Ireland, which, says Tacitus^f, being situated exactly between Spain and Britain, lies very convenient for the French sea, and would have united the strong members of the empire with great advantage; and Agricola thought it could have been conquered, and kept in subjection with one legion and some few auxiliaries.

There must indeed have been a great deal of wealth and treasure in Ireland, to have allured the Ostmen and Nordmen to invade it so often, and at last to engage them to settle in it. It was not for the sake of provisions, or of some cattle, that they made such repeated attempts on this country; no: as those people enriched themselves by their pyracies, money was what they most sought for. For as the Bua-Saga expresses it^g, they used to enter into partnerships upon oath, to exercise their pyracies,

^a Flaherty's Ogygia, Lond. 1685. p. 195.

^b Ogygia, p. 249.

^c Ibid. p. 248.

^d At a great council held at Drogheda on Friday before the feast of St. Andrew, (29 Hen. VI.) before James Earl of Ormond, deputy to Richard duke of York lord lieutenant of Ireland; it was enacted (cap. 14.); that licence be granted to Sir Christopher St. Laurence lord of Howth to search for a mine within the seigniory of Howth, as well for tin as lead ore, and to apply the profits thereof to his own use for three years, yielding 6s. 8d. a year if the mine be found. (cap. 17.) As Richard

Ingram miner and finer has at his great charge found out divers mines of silver, lead, iron, coal, &c. which would cause great relief to the inhabitants of Ireland if they were wrought; it is therefore enacted, &c.—Rolls-office, Dublin.

^e Melius aditus portusque per commercia & negotiatores cogniti. Tacitus in Vita Agricola, p. 159. Edit. Elzev. 1649.

^f Tacitus ut supra.

^g Societatem sub juramento inierunt, piraticam exercentes, quâ pecuniam sibi honorificè quæsierunt. Tho. Bartholinus, de Antiq. Dan. p. 457. Hafniæ 1689.

whereby they honourably^a acquired plenty of money. And Sturlesonius^b says, that after their expeditions they used to bring home so much money, which they had taken from the merchants and husbandmen, that those, who saw these riches, admired how so much gold could be collected together in those northern countries. A. D. 800.

It appears from Saxo-Grammaticus^c, that those pyrates, under the conduct of Hacco and Starchater, having invaded Ireland, attacked and routed the Irish, and killed their king Huglet, found in his treasury in Dublin such vast quantity of money, “ that every man had as much as he could wish or desire; so as they needed not to fall out among themselves for the partition, since there was so much for each Man’s Share, as he could conveniently carry away.”

The Prince, here called Huglet, was probably Aodh VII. king or monarch of Ireland, surnamed Finn-Liath; and of Aodh, or Hugh and Liath, a foreigner, such as our historian was, might very well, instead of Hugo-Liath, call him Hugoleth, or Hughlet, in Latin *Hugletus*. This admitted, the fact must have happened in the year 879, which is the time assigned by O Flaherty^d for the death of this prince, though he doth not say that he was either attacked or killed by the Danes; but that his son and successor Neil-Glundubh was by them killed in a battle near Dublin in 919, according to the annals of Dungalls^e. The same author owns, that the Danes and Norwegians made several irruptions into Ireland in the reign of Aodh V. surnamed Oirmigh, in the years 788, 807, 812, and 815^f.

We find, in several of our historians, mention made of gold and silver being paid by the ounce. Thus in the annals of Ulster^g *ad An.* 1004, we find that Brian-Boruma, king of Ireland, offered twenty ounces of gold on the altar of St. Patrick, in the cathedral church of Armagh. That Tirdelvac O’Connor, king of Ireland, *An.* 1152, having obtained a great victory over the people of Munster, received for the ransom of their leader sixty ounces of gold. That *An.* 1157, Maurice O Loughlin, king of Ireland, upon the dedication of the church of Mellifont, gave likewise sixty ounces of gold to the monks of that house; to whom Donat O Carrol, king of Ergal, founder of that church, gave also sixty ounces of gold; and Der-vorgilla, wife of Tierna O Ruark, as many^h. That *An.* 1161, Flahertach O Broilean, Comorban of Columb-kill, having visited the diocess of Ossory, there were collected there for him among the people four hundred and twenty ounces of pure silverⁱ. And in a Latin manuscript copy of the gospels^j, we find this marginal

^a Piracy was then looked upon as honourable; the king and lords of Denmark being often concerned in those expeditions. *Ibid.* cap. ii. & ix.

^c Piraticam susceperunt, deque prædonibus, qui agricolas & mercatores spoliaverunt, magnas pecunias egerunt, & omnes qui hæc videbant admirati sunt, in septentrionalibus terris tantum auri collectum esse.—*Ibid.* p. 458.

^d Saxo-Grammat. Hist. Dan. lib. 6. Tho. Barthol. p. 15.

^e Hollingshed, vol. 2. p. 57.

^f Ogygia, p. 433.

^g *Ibid.* p. 434.

^h *Ibid.* p. 433.

ⁱ Ware’s Antiq. Edit. 1704, p. 70, and by Harris, p. 204.

^j Ware’s Antiq. p. 70.

^k MSS. annals of abby Boyle, Trin. Coll. Dublin.

^l MSS. college library, Dublin.

A. D. 800. note, that Moriertagh O Loughlin, king of Ireland, granted a parcel of land to the monastery of Ardraccan in perpetuity, at a yearly rent of three ounces of gold. From all which, some have imagined, that there was no money struck in Ireland, before the arrival of the English. But probably these were particular cases; the gold and silver offered to churches might be for chalices, and other holy utensils or ornaments; and great payments were no doubt made by weight: So William the Conqueror allowed Edgar Atheling a pound weight of silver every day'. And by reason perhaps of the lightness of some of the then current money, people chose to receive it *ad scalam*, by weight'. It appears for certain from a letter of Lanfranc archbishop of Canterbury to Tirlagh, king of Ireland, *An.* 1074, that money was then current in this kingdom, since the bishops used to confer holy orders for money, which evil custom he adjures him to reform'.

I have, I fear, been too long in endeavouring to prove the early use of money and of mints in Ireland; I shall therefore proceed, and speak of the coins now extant, or mentioned by historians, and only add that Keating^b tells us, that mints were erected at Armagh and Cashel about the time of St. Patrick's entering upon his apostleship (in the fifth century) and that money was there coined for the service of the state. Another author^c says likewise, that Tirlagh O Connor, king of Ireland, erected a mint and had silver money struck at Clonmacnoise; and that he bequeathed to the clergy of that place five hundred and forty ounces of gold, and forty marks of silver.

Whether the monarch of Ireland only, or each petty king in his province or territory, did assume the power of striking money, doth not clearly appear from ancient history: But if the coins in my first plate, taken from Sir James Ware, and Camden, be Irish, and Mr. Walker's notes on them admitted to be just, we may well suppose that each prince in his kingdom, in imitation of the Anglo-Saxon kings in England, struck money of his own. To proceed.

The coins Number 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, in my first plate, are taken from Sir James Ware^d, and, as he says, were in the year 1689 found in great quantity, near Glendoloch, in the county of Wicklow; but they were so worn and defaced by age and rust, that that learned antiquarian could not decypher them or make out their inscriptions. He thought indeed that, on Number 14 of my first plate (the fourth in the plate of coins of the last edition of his works, vol. ii. p. 206.) he could observe the date of the year, wherein that piece was struck, which he makes out 1115: But as no dates are found on the current coins of these kingdoms, before the year 1513, when Henry VIII. had the year for the first time struck on his testoons coined

^a Speed's hist. of England, p. 504.

^b Among many examples, I shall give one: *An.* 1248, Hen. III. the money was so shamefully clipped, that an order was issued out, enjoining, that it should be taken only by weight, and that no pieces should pass, but such as were round.

Matt. Paris. Annals Waverly, ad *An. Cit.*

^c Ware ut supra.

^d Keating's Hist. p. 327.

^e Cambrensis Eversus, p. 85.

^f Antiq. cap. 25.

at Tournay, the letters c. n. v. x. in the four angles of the cross, must be read *Crux**, which word is often seen on the coins of Ethelred, and others of the Anglo-Saxon kings of England, and on some of those of the kings of Sweden. Number 18, 19, 20 and 21, are taken from Camden's last edition. "These," says Mr. Walker in his notes, "seem to be of the antient Irish kings, the only ones that I ever saw; the letters are very unusual, and difficult to be read or understood." The 18th (9th in Camden's fourth plate) he conjectures to be DIDA MEDINO, the reverse two hands in the opposite sides of the cross. The 19th (11th in Camden) that gentleman says, he takes also to be of an Irish prince by the word MIDINI, which is likewise seen on the 20th, (12th in his plate) and that therefore they seem to refer to Midia, now called Meath, one of the divisions of Ireland.

The Pieces, Number 12, 22, 23 and 24, Plate I. Number 31, 32, 33, 36 and 37, Plate II. and Number 162, 163, 164, 165, 166 and 167. Plate VIII. I have by me, but must own, that the letters are so defaced, or so unusual, that I am not able to find out what they are, nor what prince they belong to; and as these letters appear to have been mostly strokes like so many IIII &c. I presume that the inscriptions on these coins were written in that occult manner, called *Ogham Craobh* by the Irish antiquarians†. From the armed head on Number 31, I should assign it to Brian-Boruma, who, as he was a great warrior‡, might very properly be represented in armour on his coins. All I can say is, that the crosses represented on them shew, that they were struck since christianity was introduced into Ireland. And their rude and coarse make denotes them to be very antient, and that they were current here long before the arrival of the English, and some of them perhaps before the Danes were well settled here: for by comparing Number 24, 30, 35. and 36, with the rest, it will appear that the Irish, from their intercourse with the Danes, were much improved in the manner of striking their money.

Number 30, Plate II. seems to belong to one Donald, king of Monaghan. It bears that prince's head, crowned, with this inscription, ✠ DIMN. ROEX. MNEGHI. which I read *Domnaldus Rex Mnegin*, in English Monaghan; reverse a cross crescent, with this Epigraphe ✠ ODIVLEZOIMRVIRI, which, I confess, I do not understand; it weighs nineteen grains. Were this coin less resembling those of Sithric, and had it that rude and coarse stamp, which appears on those of a much older date, I should take it to be of Domhnon, prince of the *Magnati*, whence Irrosdomhnon, a territory in the province of Connaught, now part of the county of Mayo, was so called; and it is very probable, that that part of Connaught was called Mnegni or Mneghi in Irish, and its Inhabitants, from thence, *Magnatæ* by Ptolomy.

Number 34 represents a king's head crowned, with this inscription, ✠ IFAR < s IVARUS. *Rex dyfflin*. *Ivarus Rex Dyfflin*. [I have supplied here the letters c. x. worn out

A. D.
800.

A. D.
872.

* The person who engraved Sir James Ware's plate, probably mistook the Greek II for the Saxon z.

• Camden, vol. i. p. 196. Lond. 1722.

† Ware's *Antiq.* 1704, p. 19, 20.

• Ibid. p. 63.

IVARUS. in *Rex*, and the *d* in *Dyfflin*] reverse a cross crescent, with what Mr. Walker calls a hand, in two of the opposite quarters of the cross, and an epigraphe, which I am not able to read. This, very probably, is the prince, who Sir James Ware^b says, is called in the Irish annals, *King of the Normans of all Ireland*, and who died in 872. This piece weighs fifteen grains.

SITHRIC. A. D. 989. That the Danish kings of Ireland struck money here, is now past all manner of doubt. I have some very fair and well preserved coins of Sithric, king of Dublin, which have on one side his head crowned, and on the other a cross terminating in a crescent, the inscriptions on either side, being different. Number 1, Plate I. has on the head side this epigraphe, ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLI. *Sithricus, Rex Dyflin*; reverse, ✠ LEOFPMIENIOLVNI. *Leofpmien, Monetarius Luni*, the minter's name, with that perhaps of the place where struck. Number 2, has ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLNI, the N is here put before the I, *Sithricus Rex Dyflin*; reverse, ✠ SONMEDS.NOM.N. *Sonmeds Monetarius Normanorum*; the word *MON Monetarius** being written backwards. Number 3, ✠ SIHTRC REX DYN I, *Sithricus Rex Dyflin*. the F and L are here omitted through the ignorance of the engravers of those rude ages; reverse, ✠ EIREMION. MDLHR; *Eiremion Monetarius Dyfliniensium Normanorum*. Number 4, ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLNIN. *Sithricus Rex Dyfliniensium Normanorum*, king of the Nordmen of Dublin[†]; reverse, ✠ BYRNTIOD MO RINI. *Byrntiodh Monetarius Rini*. What place in the small Kingdom of Dublin Rini was, is hard to guess, unless it be Raheny in Fingall, which from the Norwegians took its name of Finn-Gall, the white foreigners[†]. Number 5, taken from the earl of Pembroke's collection, has on one side, SIHTRC REX DYFLI, *Sithricus Rex Dyflin*; reverse, SIIFERN MO DYFLI, *Sufern Monetarius Dyflin*. Number 6, SIHTRC REX DYFLN, *Sithricus Rex Dyflin*; reverse FÆREMAN MO DYFLI, *Færeman Monetarius Dyflin*. Number 25, Plate II. taken from Kedder's collection of Irish coins, has ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLNM, *Sithricus Rex Dyfliniensium Normanorum*; reverse, ✠ CIODMAN MO LVNI, *Ciodhman Monetarius*

^b Ogygia, 435.

* The *Monetarii* were not the common workmen or artificers employed in striking the coins, as some have imagined. They were the farmers of the mint, who gave so much a year to the prince for the sole privilege of coining in a city or town. Thus in the book of statutes of Charles the bald, Gofninus, brother to the castellan of Tournay is called *Monetarius*, because he was *dominus monete Tornacensis*, which must imply master or farmer, and not lord of the mint of Tournay, for the mint or right of coining money did then belong to the bishop of that place. And as these farmers or mint-masters were answerable for the weight and purity of the money struck by them, or the people under them, they

were obliged to stamp their name, or some private mark on the monies of their respective coinage.

† “The Danes and Norwegians, who subdued a great part of Ireland, were some time called Normans, as denoting men of the north, sometimes Ostmans, to denote men of the east.” Ware's antiquities, p. 19. Edit. 1704. But, as I apprehend, Nordmen signified the Norway-men, or men of the Nord, and are so called in the Danish annals, and Ostmen signified the Danes.

† Gall, or Gealta, in Irish, more properly signifies the Gauls or Celtes, who very probably sent Colonies into this Island, whence the word Gall was applied to all foreigners.

Luni. This last word, as in Number 1, was probably the name of some small town in the kingdom of Dublin, perhaps the island of Lambay, formerly called Limni †, and in process of time Lini and Luni, where still are the remains of an old castle, said to be built by the Danes. The Anglo-Saxon kings in England had a mint in almost every town of their respective kingdoms, in imitation whereof, the kings of Dublin had very probably the like. Number 26 is very different from the coins before described, and seems rather to belong to some other prince of that name. By the dress of the head, one would think that it was struck about the time of Edward the Elder, king of England, whose coins it pretty much resembles, and who died in 925, having reigned twenty years. And, I find in Ware's annals¹ one Sithric chief of the Danes, who, in 916, defeated the army of Ailill king of Leinster. To this prince therefore might this coin very probably belong. It has on one side a king's head with a kind of cap or tiara tied with a diadem, from which hang two pearls, and this legend ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLNE, *Sithricus Rex Dyfliniensium Normanorum*; reverse, a small cross in the center of a circle, and ✠ ÆLFELN MO DYFLIMO, *Ælfeln Monetæ Dyfliniensis Monetarius*, master of the mint of Dublin. Number 27 is also different from the rest, the head being crowned with a small crown fleurie, in a kind of tressure of four semicircles, with this epigraphe, ✠ SIHTRC REX DYFLNO, *Sithricus Rex Dyfliniensium Normanorum*; reverse, STELENMONOND, *Stelen Monetarius on Dyflin*; on, being here instead of in. Number 28, ✠ SiHTRHI✠DYFLN. *Sithricus Rex Dyflin*. The two first letters S. I. are worn out and the word rex also partly defaced; reverse, ✠ IHIRIEHITO . . . M. It appears plainly, that these coins were struck by a prince of Dublin, and from Number 6, coined by Færeman, that they may, for the most part, if not all, be ascribed to Sithric, the third of that name, king of Dublin, who, according to Sir James Ware¹, began to reign about the year 989. For I have a coin of Ethelred II. king of England, (the like of which, is in the collection of the earl of Pembroke, and in that of the late Dr. Gilbert, in Trinity-college, Dublin) struck in Dublin, by the same Færeman. It has on one side, that prince's head crowned, and this inscription, ✠ ÆDELRED REX ANGLO, *Ethelred Rex Anglorum*; reverse, a cross crescent, and ✠ FÆREMAN MO DYFLI, *Færeman Monetarius Dyflin*. See Plate I. Numb. 7. "This prince ascended the throne of England in 979, and died in 1016". And Sithric, son of Aulaf, or Anlaf, succeeded his brother Glumain, or Gluniarand, in 989, and died in 1029, in his way on a pilgrimage to Rome"; they were therefore cotemporaries. Another coin of Ethelred, (Number 29, Plate II) has likewise his head crowned, and this legend, ✠ ÆDELRED REX ANGLO, *Ethelred Rex Anglorum*; reverse, a cross crescent, and ✠ FÆNEMNMODYFLI, *Fenem Normanorum Monenarius Dyflin*, or *Normanorum Dyfliniensium Monenarius*. How these coins of Ethelred of England happened to be struck in Dublin, seems

ETHEL-
RED.

† Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 41.

¹ Ware's antiq. edit. 1704, p. 61.

¹ Antiq. p. 63. Edit. 1704.

¹ Saxon annals, Huntingdon, lib. 5. Brompton, p. 377. Malmsh. p. 78.

¹ Ware, ut supra.

ETHEL-
RED.
A. D.
989.

surprising; and to account for it, we must have recourse to his father king Edgar's charter, mentioned by Ware and Flaherty, though looked upon by others as spurious, and a trick of the Monks'. "Godfrid," says Sir James Ware, "reigned in Dublin (*An.* 962.) About this time Edgar, king of England, subdued a great part of Ireland, and particularly the city of Dublin, as appears by his charter of Oswald's law for depriving of married priests, and introducing monks, dated at Gloucester, in the year 966, indiction VIII, and of his reign 6." The preface to which charter, I have here inserted in the notes*.

If, as it appears from this charter, Edgar conquered the kingdom and city of Dublin, and a great part of Ireland, he did, one may reasonably suppose, lay some kind of tribute on the vanquished princes of this island, and obliged them to strike in his name and with his effigies, and that of his successors, the money so to be paid to him and them for the said tribute. And as Ethelred succeeded his brother Edward, three years only after the death of their father Edgar, it is very probable that these coins were struck as part of that tribute, and as an acknowledgment of his dominion and right of protectorship over the kingdom of Dublin¹, which probably continued no longer, than while he was able to defend himself against the Danes, who invaded his own kingdom.

Mr. Thoresby, in the fourth plate of Anglo-Saxon coins in Camden, gives us a piece of Edgar's, Number 24, which stands Number 8 in my first plate. It has this inscription, ✠ EADGAR REX *Edgar Rex*; reverse, ✠ DYRMOD MONE, *Dyrmod Monetarius*. And in his notes on the coins of this table, he says, "that this piece, being found in digging among some antient ruins in Dublin, was sent him, as an

* "But tho' this king Edgar was certainly a very great and heroic prince, yet questionless that charter, which makes him to have subdued the greatest part of Ireland, with the city of Dublin, is fictitious, and nothing but a piece of monkish forgery." Tyrrel's hist. of Engl. vol. I. book vi. p. 12. Lond. 1698.

¹ Ware's antiq. p. 63.

* "By the grace of almighty God, king of kings, and lord of lords, I Edgar, king of England, and of all the kings of the islands round about Britain, and of the nations included in it, lord and emperor, give thanks to the omnipotent god, my king, who has so enlarged my empire, and extended it above the kingdom of my fathers, who though they enjoyed the monarchy of all England from the time of Athelstan, who first of all the kings of England, subdued all the inhabitants of Britain; yet none attempted to enlarge the bounds of it; but to me the divine providence has

granted, together with the kingdom of England, all the kingdoms of the islands of the ocean, with their fierce kings, as far as Norway, and a great part of Ireland, with its most noble city of Dublin, all which by the divine providence I have subdued." Ware's antiq. p. 14.

Præmium Edgari diplomatis, quod habetur inter Wigornensis ecclesiæ monumenta, ejusque exemplum inter archiva regia Londini in arce asservatur.

Altitonantis Dei largiâ clementiâ, &c.

Ogygia, p. 39.

"It is to be observed, that the easterlings were the first founders of the four principal cities of Ireland, viz. Dublin, Waterford, Cork and Limerick, and of the other sea-port towns in the kingdom. These cities and towns were under the protection of Edgar, and Edward the confessor." Davis's report of mixt monies, p. 23.

" Irish coin, Dermot; the minter's name, being familiarly known to those that are ^{EDRED.} conversant in the Irish annals." If this coin be admitted to be Irish, Dermot, ^{A. D. 989.} here mentioned, was perhaps one of the (*Reguli*) petty-kings of Ireland, (probably of Leinster,) whom Edgar had subdued, and on whom he had imposed a tribute; and not a common coiner, or mint-master. I should therefore choose to read this inscription, *Dermotti Moneta*, instead of *Dermodius Monetarius*.

I have among my Anglo-Saxon coins, a piece of Edred, king of England, (*An.* 948) with this inscription, ✠ EADRED REX. and on the reverse, ✠ DYRMOD M. *Dermod Monetarius*. See Number 9, Plate I. If, because the name of Dermod is found on some of Edgar's coins, we receive them as Irish, we have the same reason to admit this of Edred, as struck in Ireland, by some of its petty-kings subdued by that prince: if so, Edgar was not the first of the kings of England that attempted the conquest of Ireland. And, indeed, we find in Bede*, that Egfrid, king of Northumberland, in the year 684, sent his general Berthus, who invaded this country.

Number 10, Plate I. is taken from Sir James Ware*, who gives it as of Anlaf, king of Dublin, by some, says he, called king of Ireland. And although some late antiquarians have ascribed this piece to Anlaf, king of Northumberland; yet I must beg leave to join in opinion with our learned knight in giving it to Anlaf, of Dublin. It has on one side a figure resembling three shields, and this inscription, ✠ ANLAF CVNVNC.... Anlaf king.... The letters that followed were I suppose so defaced, that they could not be read. The reverse has a church, and this legend, FARHAN HONETA, which some read, *Farnan Moneta*, whence they conceit that it was struck at Farne-island, or at Landisfarne, in England. The letter H, which they take for an N in one word, and for an M in the other, I read M in both, Thus, *Farman*, or *Fareman Monetarius*; and as " it appears by an inquisition[†] taken in the sixth year " of Richard III. *An.* 1383, and still extant in the archives of Christ-church, " Dublin, that the said church, said to be built by Sitricus, *An.* 1038, was founded " and endowed, time out of mind, and long before the conquest of Ireland:" And as the black-book of that church ascribes the foundation of it to Sithric, son of Anlaf, king of the Ost-men of Dublin"; we may very reasonably suppose that Sithric, whose coins we have produced, was the son of Anlaf, who died in the island of Hy in 981"; that he was the Person, who, according to the black-book, gave the ground for the building of that church; and that it was begun, and perhaps endowed, by his son Anlaf, who was killed in England, on his way to Rome, in 1035", and the building perfected in 1038', by his son Sithric the IVth. If so, this prince might have had a church represented on his coins; and these might likewise have been struck by Fareman, who was his father's mint-master, and might have

* Egfridus rex Nordanhymbrorum misso in Hyberniam cum exercitu duce Bertho, vastavit misere gentem. Bede lib. 4. cap. xxvi. p. 151. Basil 1563.

* Ware's antiq. ch. xxv. p. 71. Edit. 1704.

* Ware by Harris, p. 301.

* Ibid.

* Ware's antiq. 1704. ch. xxiv.

* Ibid.

* Ibid.

ANLAF. lived fifteen years in the service of these two princes, as there passed but nine years
A. D. between the death of the one and the other.
1029.

I have another coin of one Anlaf, Number 11, Plate I. with this inscription, ✱ ANLAF REX A. which I at first took for *Rex Angliæ*; but finding on some of my Anglo-Saxon coins, *Eadred Rex o*, *Eadred Rex e*, *Eadred Rex s*, *Edwig Rex m*, I take these letters A, o, e, s, and m, to be so many privy or mint marks, and therefore think that this coin belongs to Anlaf, one of the Danish kings of Waterford; for so I read the word WADTER on the reverse of this well-preserved piece, which weighs $17\frac{3}{4}$ grains.

I shall here subjoin the weight of such of the then current coins as I have in my possession, viz.

No. 1	Plate I.	$22\frac{1}{2}$ grs.	No. 22	Plate I.	$14\frac{3}{4}$ grs.	No. 36	Plate II.	$11\frac{3}{4}$ grs.
2	ditto	$21\frac{1}{2}$	23	ditto	$16\frac{1}{2}$	37	ditto	$13\frac{3}{4}$
3	ditto	22	28	Plate II.	16	162	Plate VIII.	$13\frac{1}{4}$
4	ditto	$22\frac{1}{2}$	30	ditto	19	163	ditto	$13\frac{1}{4}$
6	ditto	$23\frac{1}{4}$	31	ditto	$10\frac{3}{4}$	164	ditto	$12\frac{1}{2}$
7	ditto	23	32	ditto	$14\frac{1}{4}$	165	ditto	$12\frac{1}{2}$
9	ditto	25	33	ditto	$10\frac{3}{4}$	166	ditto	$11\frac{1}{2}$
11	ditto	$17\frac{3}{4}$	34	ditto	15	167	ditto	$14\frac{3}{4}$
12	ditto	$14\frac{1}{2}$	35	ditto	$11\frac{3}{4}$			

These pieces were struck, and in all probability passed for Pennies. And from the difference in the respective weight of each of them, we may observe the necessity of paying and receiving money in those times, by the scale, and the reason why mention is so often made in our historians, of gold and silver being paid *ad scalam*, or by the ounce.

HEN. II. I am now come to the time of the arrival of the English in this island, under Henry
A. D. II. who, having been invited over* by Dermot Mac Murrough, king of Leinster,
1172. landed in this kingdom in the seventeenth year of his reign, settled colonies in different parts of it, and, by degrees, introduced therein the laws and customs of England. I do not find, that he had any money struck in Ireland; yet, "to the end that he might easily obtain the pope's good will, for his entering upon Ireland, he voluntarily offered unto him, the payment of a yearly pension of one penny out of every house in the country, which was the first ecclesiastical tribute, that ever came into the pope's coffers from Ireland." But whether these pennies were coined in this kingdom or not, is not mentioned in my author. It is however very probable, that this prince, after having subdued the island, and obliged its petty-kings to do him homage, and swear fealty, did assume the regal power and prerogative of having money struck with his name and effigies, as Ethelred had done before; and the more

* Maur. Regan hist. in Hibernica, p. 3.

p. 83. Dublin, 1739.

• Primate Usher's religion of the antient Irish,

• Rog. Hoveden *ad An.* 1171.

so, as there were already mints in Dublin, and probably in other places. And his-
 torians mentioning so expressly, that king John, his successor, was the first, who had
 money struck here of the same standard with that of England, seems to hint that
 Henry had had money coined here of a different standard. I have not had the good
 fortune, as yet, to meet with any of this prince's coins struck here, nor records that
 mention any such; we must therefore leave it to future enquirers, and come to,

JOHN, earl of Morton and duke of Cornwall, born in 1166, who was the fourth
 son of Henry II. The king, when this young prince was in his twelfth year, made
 him lord of Ireland, and sent him over^d. John accordingly entered upon the power,
 by enacting laws, granting charters, and coining money. Of this we have his half-
 penny, having on one side his head full-faced, with a diadem, or crown of five pearls,
 and this inscription, IOHANNES DOM. *Johannes Dominus*, and on the reverse, a dou-
 ble cross, with a pellet, or annulet in each quarter, and for inscription, some have
 (the minter's name) ✠ RODBERD ON DIV. or DW.— ✠ TOMAS ON DIV.— ✠ NORMAN
 ON DIV. for Divelin, Dublin. Others have ✠ WILELM ON WA.—ALEXAND ON WA.
 for Waterford. See Plate II. Numb. 38, 39, 40, 41 and 42. These half-pennies
 weigh from 10 to 10½ grains, and by wearing have lost from half a grain to one grain
 from their original weight, eleven grains, the standard of the English half-pennies.

This prince continued lord of Ireland during the life of his father, and of his bro-
 ther Richard I. after whose death he succeeded to the crown of England, being then
 thirty-three years old, and joined to his title of king of England, that of lord of
 Ireland, in consequence whereof he altered the stamp of his Irish monies. He was
 the first, it is said, who called in the Easterlings, to reduce the money to its due fine-
 ness, whence, it is thought, it had the name sterling. But it appears from several
 historians, that the word sterling was in use long before. Some think it was first in-
 troduced in the time of Osbright, one of the Saxon kings of England, about one
 hundred and sixty years before the Norman conquest^e. Ordericus Vitalis^f often
 mentions *Nummi Sterilenses*, sterling money, particularly in a charter of William
 the conqueror, to the abbey of Utica, *Fanum Sancti Ebrulphi*, St. Evroul, in
 Normandy. We find likewise mention made of pennies sterling, in the time of Henry
 I.^g, of Henry II.^h, of Richard I.ⁱ, and in an antient registry, formerly belonging
 to St. Thomas's abbey, near Dublin, we find these words^k. “ For this grant, the
 “ said Roger has given to us an ounce of gold, to be expended on the repairs of the
 “ walls of the city, and twenty shillings of sterlings, when we sent over messengers
 “ to our lord, earl John, to transact the affairs of the city.” Here the word ster-
 ling is made use of before John was king, when lord of Ireland, and earl of Morton

^d *Johannes filius regis, de dono patris dominus Hibernie, venit in Hiberniam, anno etatis sue duodecimo. Selden tit. hon. p. 38. Lond. 1672.*

^e Davis's reports, p. 23.

^f Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 207.

^g Spelman. verb. sterling.

^h Le Blanc traité des monnoyes de France, p. 153. Amst. 1692. Spelman ut supra. Camden's remains, chap. money. Lond. 1614.

ⁱ Roger Hoveden, in Ric. I. p. 377, Lond. 1596.

^k Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 207.

JOHN only, and before he could have brought over the Easterlings into England. These instances may suffice to shew the antiquity of the word sterling, whereby is meant the purity of the English standard for silver, probably derived from two Saxon words, *steor*, standard, rule, and *all*, or *alling*, noble,—*steoralling*, the noble, or royal standard. Be it as it may, king John was the first who ordered monies to be coined in Ireland of the same weight and fineness with those of England.

1210. This prince came over again, in the eleventh year of his reign¹, and appointed John de Grey, bishop of Norwich, lord justice of Ireland, who, by his direction, caused pennies, half-pennies and farthings, to be coined of the same standard with that of the coin of England, which were to pass equally current in both kingdoms.

1217. In 1217 money was likewise struck in this country, and probably of the same weight and fineness. "The present standard of England", of eleven ounces two penny-weight fine to eighteen penny-weight allay, is called in the oldest accounts of the mint extant, the old standard, or the standard of the old sterlings, and it is probable that these pennies were of that standard, and that the pound of the Tower," (eleven ounces four grains, being sixteen grains lighter than the pound troy) "of such standard of silver, was then cut into two hundred and forty of these pennies", whence it will be found that the weight of the penny was twenty-two troy grains and a half; and that the intrinsic value of twenty shillings, or of two hundred and forty such pennies, of full weight, was the same as the value of fifty-eight shillings, and one penny, half-penny, of the present English coined money;" or three pounds, two shillings, and ten pence farthing, Irish currency. So that the penny of that time would, therefore, be now worth three pence half farthing.

This prince is represented on his pennies and half-pennies, in a triangle, with his head full-faced, crowned with a crown fleurie, and holding in his right hand a scepter with a cross fleurie, and having on the left side a rose of four leaves, with this inscription; ✠ IOHANNES REX. reverse, in the like triangle, a crescent, and a blazing star, with three smaller stars in the angles, each point of the triangle terminating in a cross patee, and the like cross on each side above the legend, ✠ ROBERD ON DIVE.— ✠ WILLEM ON DIV. for Divilin, ON WA. for Waterford, ON LIME. for Limerick.— The half-pennies are like the pennies, but instead of the blazing star, have a cross with the crescent. The farthings have likewise, on one side, his head full faced with a crown fleurie, within a triangle, but want the scepter and the rose, and have a small

¹ Eodem anno rex Anglorum Johannes profectus est in Hyberniam, præfecerat autem ibidem Johannem de Grey, episcopum Norwicensem justiciarum; qui denarium terræ illius, ad pondus numismatis Angliæ fecerat fabricari: & tam obolum quam quadrantem rotundum fieri præcipit. Jussit quoque rex, ut illius monetæ usus tam in Angliâ, quam in Hiberniâ communis ab omnibus haberetur. Math. Paris, ad an. 1210, p. 230. Lond. 1640. Ware's annals, p. 43. edit.

1704. Stowe's annals, p. 168. Lond. 1631. Hollingshed, p. 174.

= Martin Folkes's table of English coins, p. 5. Lond. 1745.

* At first the denier sterling was the twentieth part of the ounce, that is, an ounce was cut into twenty deniers sterling; twelve ounces made the pound. Composit. mensur. Edw. I. p. 133. Rastal of weights and measures.

star in each angle, with this epigraphe, WILLEM ON. reverse the blazing star in a triangle, and round it, JOHANNES DW. Divelin. Such of these pennies, as I have tried, weigh from twenty to twenty-one grains and a half; the half-pennies, from ten to ten grains three quarters. See Plate II. Numb. 43, 44, 45, 46.

The triangle on these, and the following coins of Henry III, Edward I, Edward II, and Edward III, bishop Nicholson says^{*}, was intended to represent the Irish harp; but as I find the like triangle, on the coins of Biorno, king of Sweden, *An.* 818*, of Charles the simple, *An.* 893, of Philip the fair, *An.* 1286, and of Charles the fair, *An.* 1322, kings of France[†], of Eric, *An.* 1232, of Abel, *An.* 1250, kings of Denmark, and of Peter, king of Portugal, *An.* 1377[‡]; we may more probably suppose, that as John was the first, that ordered his Irish money to be made of the same weight and standard with his English, and to be equally current in both kingdoms, yet, as the heads of the kings were inclosed in a circle on their English monies, so, for distinction sake, he ordered his head to be represented in a triangle on his Irish coins. From this triangle perhaps proceeded the arms of Ireland—the harp; which we do not find represented on any of the antient Irish coins extant, except it be, what has been taken for a hand, which, I must own, I think is more like a harp, especially as it appears on one of my coins, Plate II. Numb. 37.

Henry III. succeeded his father John in the tenth year of his age; and in the thirty-first of his reign, 1247, he ordered[§] stamps to be graven, of a new incision or cut, and to be sent to Canterbury, Divelin, and other places, forbidding the use of any other stamp, than that used at the exchange or mint of London. And in his thirty-fifth year, he caused[¶] pennies and half-pennies to be struck in Ireland, in order, it is thought, to pay the large and frequent subsidies, then demanded of that kingdom, by Pope Innocent IV[¶]. These coins have that prince's head crowned, in a triangle,

JOHN
A. D.
1217.

HEN. III.
A. D.
1216.

1251.

* Irish hist. lib. p. 159.

† El. Brenner, thes num. Sueo-Gothorum, p. 3. Holmiæ 1731.

‡ Le Blanc, traité des monnoyes de France.

§ Tho. Broder Bircherod, specim. antiq. reimonet. Dan. p. 79, 95, 98. Hafniæ, 1701. Alterum latus triangularem ostendit figuram, quam etiam ambiunt tres literæ, REX. ibid p. 95.

¶ Stowe's annals, p. 187. Lond. 1631.

¶ 1 Rot. claus. 36 Hen. III. Rymer, tom. i. p. 462. edit. Lond.

“Eisdemque diebus missus est in Hiberniam magister Johannes Rufus ad pecuniam colligendam cum potestatis plenitudine, quasi legatus; memoratus igitur Johannes tam vigilem lenter mandato papali & suæ indulsit utilitati & lucro, ut sex millia marcarum ab Hiberniâ extorsit.” Matt. Paris, p. 631. Lond. 1684. Matt. Westm. p. 335. Francf. 1601. Such de-

mands were at that time very frequent from the Popes, in order to carry on their own wars against emperor Frederick and the king of Arragon. M. Paris, ad An. 1240. Petrus de supino pope Gregory's nuncio carried out of Ireland 1500 Marks

1247. Johannes Rufus as above 6000

7500

which make of our present currency, £16250 sterling. “The clergy of Ireland, says Sir James Ware, (annals, p. 46. edit. 1704.) sent Irish curses after their money, for they were driven at the worst, to sell unto their merciless merchants (the nuncio's) their cows, hackneys, caddoes, and aqua-vitæ, to make present payments, and were driven in that extremity, to pawn and sell their cups, chalices, copes, altar cloathes and vestments.”

HEN. III. holding in his right hand a scepter with a cross fleurie, and having on the left side a rose of four and of five leaves, with this epigraphe, HENRICUS REX III. reverse, a double cross with three pellets in each quarter, and RICARD ON DIVE.—DAVI. ON. DEVELIN. See Plate II. Numb. 47, 48, 49. What I have seen of the best preserved of these pennies weigh twenty and twenty grains and a half, the half-pennies from nine and a half to ten grains.

1254. In the thirty-eight year of his reign, he made a grant of Ireland^a to his eldest son, prince Edward, as appears from the patent, and from a letter^b of pope Alexander, of 15 kal. May, 1260, to the said prince, wherein he stiles him lord of Ireland.—

EDW. I. Whether that prince coined any money here during his father's life is very uncertain:
A. D. 1272. but at his accession to the crown, he found his treasury empty, and the current coin of the kingdom in a very bad condition; his absence of near two years after his father's death having so encouraged the clippers and importers of base money, that little else was to be seen in either kingdoms; five or six different sorts of base and mixed money being privately imported into England and Ireland, and uttered for sterlings, (pennies) though not worth above one half-penny^c. To remedy this evil, and for restoring the coin to its antient purity, this prince, to his immortal honour, established a certain standard, as appears from an old register book of the abbey of *St. Edmund's bury*^d, which was thus ordered by Gregory Rockley, then mayor of London, and master of the mint; that in a pound of money, containing twelve ounces, there should be eleven ounces two pence farthing of pure leaf silver, commonly called silver of Gutheron-lane, and seventeen pence half-penny farthing allay; * the said pound to weigh twenty shillings and three pence in account; the ounce, twenty
1275. pence, every penny, twenty-four grains and a half. According to which, the mints in Ireland were also regulated, as appears from the account of Donald and Andrew Spersdsholt, masters of the king's exchange in Dublin^e; and a new kind of money was ordered to be struck here under the government of Stephen de Fulborn, bishop of Waterford, lord deputy of Ireland^f; which, according to Sir James Ware^g, were groats at four-pence, half-pence and farthings, and to be current through England and Ireland.

1300. The twenty-ninth of his reign, the base and mixed monies, called Croccards and Pollards^h, were, by the king's proclamation, decryed hereⁱ, as the importing of

^a Rymer, vol. i. part 1. p. 187. Dutch edit.

^b Rymer, ibidem. 2d part.

^c Lownds, p. 6. Camden's remains, ch. money. Hollingshed, *ad An.* 1300.

^d Camden, *ut supra*.

* By eleven ounces two pence farthing we are to understand, eleven ounces two penny-weight, six grains of silver; and by seventeen pence half-penny farthing of allay, seventeen penny-weight six grains.

^e Rot. Turr. Birm. 9, 10. Edw. I.

^f Camden's annal. Hib. Irish hist. lib. p. 160. Davis's reports, p. 21.

^g Annal. Hib. p. 59. edit. 1704.

^h These Croccards, Pollards, and other foreign coins, called Mitres, Lionines, Rosaries, Rosanines, Eagles, &c. from the stamp of figures impressed on them, were privately brought from France, and other parts beyond the seas, and uttered here for pennies, though not worth half a penny; they were, according to Hollingshed

them had been prohibited in England on forfeiture of life and goods*. This proclamation was transmitted hither, and is still extant in the red-book of the exchequer, Dublin^f. About this time, the circulation of so much defaced and mixed money being stopped, four new furnaces were erected in the mint of Dublin, to supply the great demand for good money; and Alexander Norman de Luic was constituted master of the coiners. Four years after^g, “ William de Wymundham, controulor of the king’s exchange in England, by command from the bishop of Bath and Wells, the king’s treasurer, sent to Sir William de Essenden treasurer of Ireland, twenty-four stamps for coining money there, viz. three piles with six crosses for pennies; three piles with six crosses for half-pennies, and two piles with four crosses for farthings^h. And these he sent by John le Minor, Thomas Dowle, an John de Shordich, clerks, members of the company of minters at London, to be by them used in the coinage of money. And an express entry is made, before what witnesses the said stamps were delivered”ⁱ. EDW. I.
A. D.
1300.

1304.

The pennies and half-pennies, struck in this reign, have the king’s head in a triangle, full-faced, and crowned with a crown fleurie, but want the scepter, which from this time is not seen on the Irish coins. They bear this inscription, ✠ EDW. R. ANG. DNS. HYB. reverse, the cross and three pellets in each quarter, and round it CIVITAS DVBLINIE.—CIVITAS WATERFORD.—CIVITAS CORCACIE, Corke, and according to Sir James Ware^k, VILLA PONTANA, Drogheda. See Plate II. Numb. 50, 51 and 52. The best preserved in these pennies, that I have seen, weigh twenty-two grains, the half-pennies from ten to ten grains and a half. I have not had the good fortune to meet with any of the farthings.

This prince was the first, who on his Irish coins, added to his title of *Rex Angliæ*, that of *Dominus Hiberniæ*, and instead of the minter’s name, ordered the name of the city, where the coin was struck, to be stamped on its reverse. He is likewise said^l to have been the first, that coined round half-pennies and farthings; but his having been the first that absolutely forbid the use of broken or clipped money might have misled some historians, and occasioned this report. For as we have

chron. Eng. *ad An.* 1300, made of a mixture of silver, copper and sulphur.

^a Rex Edwardus damnavit monetam surreptitiam & illegitimam quam Pollardos & Croccardos sive Rosanos nominabant. *Annal. anonim. bibliot. Cotton. No. 16. Camden. ann. Hib. An. 1300 Davis’s reports, p. 21.*

^b Stat. de falsâ monetâ, 27 Edw. I.

^c Ware’s antiq. by Harris, p. 209.

^d Lib. Rub. Scacc. Dublin. Davis’s reports, p. 26.

^e In the old way of coining with the hammer, before the mill and screw were invented, two kinds of puncheons were in use; one called the cross, whereon was engraven the head of the

prince, and was so called because antiently a cross was stamped on coins instead of a head; the other, called pile, contained the arms, cross, or some other figure and inscription to be struck on the reverse of the coins.

^f Ware’s antiq. by Harris, p. 209.

^g Ware’s antiq. p. 73. edit. 1704.

^h “ Circa festum sancti Petri ad Vincula, moneta in melius mutabatur. Quia denarius qui in duas partes pro obolis, & in quatuor partes pro quadrantibus fundi consuevit, ordinatum fuit ad tollendam occasionem defalcationis monetæ, quod rotundi essent denarii, oboli & quadrantes.” *Annal. anonim. bibl. Cotton. M. 16.*

Edw. I. already observed, we have the round half-pennies and farthings of John and
A. D. Henry III*.
1304.

Edw. II. ascended the throne this year. It doth not appear from history, that
A. D. this prince had any money struck in Ireland. But if we consider that few princes
1307. ever came to the crown in more favourable circumstances, it will hardly be supposed, that during a reign of near twenty years, the several mints of Ireland should stand still; especially while he was so long engaged in a very expensive war abroad, that one would rather imagine, that large supplies of money were often wanted for his use, and to answer the Pope's demands". If any of his coins be extant, it is thought* that it may be easily distinguished from those of his father or of his successor, by their having his name on them, EDWA. R. his father's having EDW. R. only, and his successor EDWAR, or EDWARD. R. This distinction may hold for his English coins; but if I may be allowed to give my opinion, I think that the coins of this prince are distinguished from those of his predecessor, by having two dots or small annulets, under the neck, whereas such as I ascribe to Edward I. have but one. I shall therefore beg leave to place here two well preserved coins lately sent me, having the king's head crowned in a triangle, with two dots under the neck, and this inscription, EDW. R. ANGL DNS HYB. reverse, the cross with three pellets in each quarter, and, CIVITAS DVBLINIE.—CIVITAS WATERFORD. See Plate II: Numb: 53, 54. They weigh full twenty-two grains. I have not seen any of this prince's half-pennies or farthings.

Edw. III. The writers of this period of our history, as I have observed in the preceding ar-
A. D. ticle are entirely silent in relation to the coins; so that from the latter part of the reign
1326-7. of Edward I. there is nothing, at least, as yet discovered concerning them, until the ninth of Edward III. when the ounce of silver, which till then had been cut into twenty deniers, or pennies, sterling, was ordered to be cut into twenty-six deniers".

1336. By a roll of this year², it also appears that a proclamation was then issued by the king and council, for the coining of pennies, half-pennies and farthings in Ireland; whereby it was ordained, " that a pound of mailles, (half-pennies) by the standard " of the exchange, should contain twenty-one shillings by tale, and the pound of " farthings, twenty-one shillings and eleven pence, and that the pound aforesaid " should contain ten ounces of pure silver, that is to say, three shillings and four " pence." My author has here omitted a word or two to render his meaning intelli- gible. The pound aforesaid was to contain ten ounces of pure silver, that is to say, says he, three shillings and four pence, whereas he ought to have said, and three

* By an English stat. 20 Edw. I. It is ordain- ed, that no merchant, or other, shall import into this realm, any money clipped, or counterfeit, or traffic therewith, on pain, for the first time, of forfeiting the money; for the second, the money and all his goods; for the third, his body and goods.—Others, which have by them clipped mo- ney, shall pierce it, and carry it to the king's ex-

change to be new coined.

² An. 1313. 300 marks were raised and carried out of Ireland for the Pope's use. Camden's annals of Ireland. * Irish hist. library, p. 160.

* Annals of Rob. Aversbury. Rastal of money, p. 345.

³ Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 210. Irish hist. lib. p. 162.

shillings and four pence allay, that is, one sixth part of a pound, or two ounces: so Edw. III. that twenty-one pennies of the standard aforesaid made an ounce, and twelve ounces a pound, which being shorn into two hundred and fifty-two pennies, or twenty-one shillings, the Irish pennies were to weigh twenty-one grains one-third, and not twenty-four, as some have imagined; for though the bullion was received at the king's exchange at the rate of twelve ounces troy weight to the pound, yet it was returned coined at the rate of eleven ounces four penny-weight only, which was the weight of the pound of the tower. However, notwithstanding the addition of one ounce two penny-weight allay in a pound of silver, for the Irish coins, yet they were the best that were struck in this reign; for the English pennies, at the rate of twenty-six to the ounce, did not weigh above nineteen grains. Silver at this time passed here at the rate of one shilling and nine pence the ounce. Two years after, by a writ, *Rex custodi suo Hiberniæ* *, the black monies called Turneys[†], which, before used to pass current here, were prohibited, though permission was given that they should be received in payment till sterling money could be provided to replace them. The next year there came out another writ[‡], which recites, "that whereas an order of king and council for the coining of pennies, half-pennies, and farthings, doth subsist, it is ordained, that eight pair of puncheons for pennies sterling, eight pair of puncheons for half-pennies, and eight pair of puncheons for farthings, shall be sent without delay to the attorney of master John Rees, clerk, treasurer of Ireland, in order that such pennies, half-pennies, and farthings, be immediately coined there for the conveniency of the king, and of his people."

1333.

1339.

After so many repeated orders, it is beyond all doubt, that a good deal of money must have been coined here; yet we cannot, with any certainty, produce any of this prince's. It is thought, as I observed it elsewhere, that if any of them be extant, they may be distinguished from those of his two immediate predecessors, by having his name on them, EDWAR, OR EDWARD R. ANGL. DNS. HYB. and on the reverse, the cross and three pellets, and round it the name of the place where struck[§].

This prince in his twenty-seventh year ordered grosses, or groats, to be struck in England, (which were the first current there of the kind) to pass for four pennies each, with half groats at two pennies each, seventy-five of these groats, or one hundred and fifty half groats, to be coined out of the pound, Tower-weight; whence the weight of the groats appears to have been seventy-two grains, and of the half-groats thirty-six grains. Whether such monies were struck in Ireland, I cannot find, but I have a coin, which I suspect to be of this prince, struck in Dublin, which weighs full twenty-seven grains troy, and may probably have lost three grains. If this piece was not originally intended for half a groat, at thirty grains, it will

1353.

* Appendix, No. 1.

called *Turronensis moneta*, Tournois, and here

† These black monies were probably the Turneys. Appendix, No. 2.
 French deniers, or double deniers of mixt metal, Irish hist. lib. p. 161. Leake of English money, p. 123. Lond. 1745.
 struck at Tours in France, whence they were

Edw. III. exactly answer, at twenty-seven grains its present weight, to the above standard, at the rate of three half-pence. It has on one side the king's head in a triangle, two dots under the neck, and **EDW. R. ANGL. DNS. HYB.** but wants the stroke (—) over the **N** in *Dominus*, and the word **EDW.** is placed in this, on the right side of the head, whereas, in all the others, it is placed over it. Whether these are characteristics sufficient to distinguish this prince's coins, from those of his predecessors, I shall not take upon me to determine; the reverse, has the cross, with three pellets in each quarter and round it, **CIVITAS DVBLINIE.** See Plate II. Numb. 55*.

Rich. II. I do not find any thing recorded concerning the monies of this prince. In the ninth year of his reign, (1386) he created Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, his favourite, marquis of Dublin, and duke of Ireland, and by his patent, granted him the fullest powers and prerogatives of sovereignty; and amongst others, "that of coining money of gold and silver, and of all other kinds of money heretofore used in the said island, so that the same be of the same alloy and essay, as the money of England." Whether the duke in consequence of his power had any such money struck here in his name, doth not appear, and is very uncertain, if not improbable; for he never came over, having been the next year forced to fly to Holland, and from thence to Louvain, where he died three years after. (1390).

King Richard came twice to Ireland, viz. *An.* 1394, when he called a parliament; and *An.* 1399: but though from his prodigious lavishness and expences in England, he must have wanted money here, to maintain his army, and carry on the war against the Irish rebels; yet it doth not appear that he coined any. An act of 15 Edward IV. seems however to refer to coins struck here by this prince.†

* By an English stat. (9 Edw. III.) it is enacted, cap. 1. that none without the king's licence, shall export any gold or silver in money or plate, on pain of forfeiting the same. Cap. 2. none shall import into any of the king's dominions any false or counterfeit money, on pain of forfeiting the same; howbeit, any person, stranger, or other, may bring to the king's exchange good money, or bullion, and receive convenient exchange for the same. Cap. 3. Small money shall not be molten into vessels or any thing else, by any goldsmith, on pain to forfeit the money so molten, and to suffer imprisonment until he has paid the one-half thereof. Cap. 4. Blackmoney shall not be current within this realm. Cap. 5. The prosecutor against the offenders of this statute shall be allowed a fourth part of the forfeiture. Cap. 6. There shall be no defrauding of this statute. Cap. 9. Search shall be made for money exported, and false money imported. Cap. 10. Hostlers (viz. Inn-keepers and victuallers) shall be sworn to search their guests.

* Walsingham *ad An. cit.* Selden tit. hon. p. 41.

* Walsingh. p. 351. Froissard. Ware's and Camden's annals *ad An. cit.*

* Walsingh. p. 356. Froissard, lib. iv. cap. 47.

† By an English statute, 5 Rich. II. it is enacted, cap. 2. That none shall export gold and silver. And by another statute, of his seventeenth year, it is enacted, that the statute of 9 Edw. III. shall be duly executed, and that none shall melt groats or half-groats, (the then current money) into vessels, upon the pain contained in that statute.—In his third year*, 1379, licence was granted by parliament to all the subjects of Ireland, to search for mines of gold and silver in their own lands for six years, reserving one-ninth part of the gold or silver so dug up to the king, and the remainder to be converted into vessels or coined in the mint at Dublin, according to the discretion of the owners, with a prohibition never-

* Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 210.

All I can find with regard to coins in this reign is from bishop Nicholson, who HEN. IV. A. D. 1399. says*, "that Henry IV. ordered the nobles of his five immediate predecessors, to pass in Ireland for ten shillings; and that from that time, all sorts of coins went at a higher value here, than in England:" But I must observe here a mistake of that great and learned prelate, and from him copied by others, in ascribing this law to Henry IV. For as Edward III. was the first, who, in his eighteenth year, coined nobles of gold, and Richard II. was the second, who had the like money struck in England, it could not then be said, with truth, that Henry IV. ordered the nobles of his five predecessors to pass here at ten shillings. The words referred to, by that great man, are these†. "The first difference and unequality betwixt the standard of the English and Irish monies is found in the fifth year of Edward IV. For then it was ordered in a parliament here, that the nobles struck in England in the time of Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. should be thenceforward current in this kingdom, for ten shillings, and so the half-noble, and all other coins according to the same rate. Vide Rot. Parl. 5th Edw. IV. cap. 40. 11th Edw. IV. cap. 6. and 15th Edw. IV. cap. 5. in the rolls-office in the castle of Dublin." This last act seems to hint, that some kind of money was coined here in this reign*, as well as in that of Henry V. and indeed the great HEN. V. A. D. 1412. scarcity of money in England, occasioned by the prodigious treasure exported to France, to defray the charge of his wars there, seems to have been a reason for coining the more money in Ireland, as it made the English coin the more scarce. I therefore believe, that the pieces, Numb. 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60, Plate III. belong to this prince. They are different from those of Henry VI. and Edward IV. in that within the circle, they want the double tressure, commonly called the rose. They have the king's head crowned, and these inscriptions, HENRICUS. DI. GRA. REX. AGL.—DEI GRA. REX. AGLIE.—DI. GRACIA. REX. AGLI.—DEI. GRACIA. REX.—DI. GRACIA. REX. AGLIE. reverse, a double circle divided by the cross, with three pellets in each quarter; the motto, POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM in the outer circle, and CIVITAS DVBLIN. or DVBLINIE, in the inner circle. Numb. 59, has a rose of four leaves, and Numb. 60, a star of six rays, on each side of the head. They weigh from twenty-six to twenty-eight grains; their original weight was probably thirty grains†.

During the reign of Henry VI. many parliamentary regulations were made in HEN. VI. A. D. 1422. theless of exporting gold, silver or bullion into any other country, except England, under the penalty of confiscation.

* Irish hist. lib. p. 162.

† Davis's reports, p. 22.

* By an English statute, 2 Hen. IV. cap. 5. it is enacted, that if the king's searchers find any money or plate, in the custody of any ready to pass beyond the sea, or in any ship that is to go beyond the sea, it shall be forfeited to the king,

save the parties reasonable expences, which he shall lose, unless he presently confess the truth. By another of his fourth year, that no goldsmith shall melt half-pence or farthings.

† By an English statute, 3 Hen. V. it is enacted, cap. 6. that it shall be treason to clip, wash, or file money. Cap. 7. That justices of assizes, and justices of peace, have power to hear and determine offences concerning false money.

HEN. VI. Ireland, relating to money; but most of these acts, as well as those of the three
 A. D. former reigns, are lost or destroyed. By an English statute of his second year, it
 1423. was enacted^a, that the ounce of silver should be cut into thirty-two pennies. In the
 1446. year 1425, John Cobham was appointed master of the mint of Ireland^a. And, in
 a parliament held at Trim, in the twenty-fifth year of this prince, It was enacted^b,
 that all clipped money, the O Reily's money, and all other unlawful money, should
 not be received in payment from the first of May then ensuing, provided a coiner was
 1457. ready to make money at the said day. And at another parliament, held at Naas, in
 his thirty-fifth year, it was enacted, that any person, except lords and messengers,
 going to England, who carries broken silver, bullion or wedges of silver out of this
 1459. land, shall pay twelve pence for every ounce^c. In February 1459, says Sir James
 Ware^d, mints were settled in the castles of Dublin and Trim, and about the same
 time, not only silver, but brass money was coined by the king's command. For
 their value, our learned knight refers us to the Par. Roll, 39 Henry VI. which his
 worthy editōr "thinks it is a vain task to look for, for that he thought it was not
 "to be found in the chancery-office, or in Birmingham tower"^e; though, through
 his indefatigable labour, he has obliged us with it^f. By this statute, enacted at a
 parliament held at Drogheda^g, it was ordained, that two coins should be struck of
 two forms in the castles of Dublin and Trim; the one of the weight of half a quarter
 of an ounce troy, (sixty grains) on which was to be imprinted, on one side, a Lion,
 and on the other side, a crown, called An Irlandes d'argent, (a silver *Hibernia*) to
 pass for the value of one penny; the other of the weight of vij obol, troy, (about
 seven grains and a half) to have on one side the impression of a crown, and on the
 other a cross, called, a Patrick, eight of which to pass for one penny.—That a gross
 (a groat) should be made of the weight of three pence sterling, (forty-five grains)
 and to pass for four pence sterling, on which shall be imprinted on one side a crown,
 on the other side a cross, and about the cross, in writing, the name of the place,
 where the coin is struck. Numb. 61, Plate III. and 71, Plate IV. are of this kind of
 groats, each side of them agreeing to the above descriptions, and Numb. 61 to the
 weight herein mentioned; it weighs forty-two grains, and has lost, by wear, three
 grains. Numb. 71 weighs but thirty-seven grains, and was probably struck in the
 latter end of this prince's reign, when the standard of Ireland was greatly reduced;
 if not intended for a three-penny piece. They have on the one side a crown, within
 a rose, or double tressure, and on the other side a cross with three pellets in each
 quarter, and an annulet between the three pellets, in two of the opposite angles.

^a Solidus sumitur pro duodecim denariis Anglica-
 nis: horum viginti sex* ponderabant unciam, cum
 tamen jam 32 denarii vix faciant unciam. Linwood
 de Testam.

^b Madden's MSS. library trin. col. Dublin.

^c Appendix, No. 3. *An.* 1426. The Duke of

^d By stat. 9 Ed. III.

Bedford got a patent of all the gold and silver
 mines in Ireland, paying a tenth to the church, one
 fifteenth to the king, and a twentieth to the owner
 of the soil. Ware's annals, p. 72.

^e Appendix, No. 4.

^f Antiq. p. 74.

^g Antiq. by Harris, p. 211.

^h Appendix, No. 5.

ⁱ Ibid.

Numb. 71 has three small crosses above the crown, and both have this inscription, HEN. VI. CIVITAS DVBLINIE. It was likewise enacted by the said act, that every person bringing bullion to the mint should receive, for every ounce of silver, troy-weight, nine of the said grosses of the value of three pence each; so that the person who brought to the mint an ounce of silver, (or four hundred and eighty grains troy) received in return but four hundred and five grains, the weight of nine groats, and consequently lost seventy-five grains, about six pence and one-third of a penny *per* ounce, which, I presume, went towards paying the charges of coinage, seignorage, and brassage^b. It appears by this act, that copper or mixed money was, for the first time, coined in this reign, with a parliamentary sanction; for such I take the first coin to be, which was to weigh half a quarter of an ounce, or sixty grains, and to pass for one penny; whereas, had it been silver, it should have passed for five pence; therefore it must have been some mixed metal, valued at eight pence the ounce, or eight shillings the pound, troy: Silver being then valued at thirty shillings the pound, troy, to the merchant, at the rate of nine groats, or three shillings the ounce out of the mint, and at twenty-seven shillings only, for such bullion as was brought in to the king's exchange. This metal, I presume, was about two ounces fine and ten ounces allay, that is, two ounces of silver and ten ounces of copper. The second coin, mentioned in this act of the weight of seven obol, troy, or seven grains and a half, eight of them to go for one penny sterling, must have been made of the same metal, as it is the exact proportion of the piece designed to pass at one penny, and to weigh sixty grains, or half a quarter of an ounce. By this act the piece of money called Jack, was ordered for the time to come to be void, and of no value.

In an adjourned Session of this parliamentⁱ, it was enacted, that,

	£.	s.	d.
The Rider of lawful weight should pass for	0	4	0
The Ducat, of lawful weight	0	4	2
The Jean, (John)	0	4	2
The Crown,	0	3	4
The Burgundy Noble,	0	6	8
The Salute,	0	4	2
The English Noble, (and its parts in proportion) for	0	8	4

And if any of the said gold, or of the English noble, demy-noble, or quadrant (quarter noble) of gold, be not of full weight, that a proportionable abatement

^b Seignorage and brassage, is a duty belonging to the prince or state, on the coining of money, called *monetarium*. It was to discharge this duty, that allay was introduced, whence it was also called brassage, from the mixture of brass. Under Edw. III. the seignorage in England was eighteen penny weight for every ounce, troy, of silver; under Hen. V. it was reduced to fifteen pence; but here, by this act, it seems to be re-

duced to six shillings and four pence *per* pound, troy, or the value of nineteen shillings of our present currency. Since the eighteenth of Charles II. nothing is taken either for the king, or the expence of coining; all money, by act of parliament of that year, being to be struck at the public expence.

ⁱ Appendix, No. 5.

HEN. VI. should be made. That the gross, or demy-gross, having the second circle clear and not clipped, and if any writing appears above the said circle, in two quarters, that then the said gross shall pass for five pence, and the half gross for two pence half-penny; and that all deniers, (pennies) that pass in England, shall pass here for a penny farthing. By this act, the denier with the cross, called Irlandes, before-mentioned, is declared to be utterly void; and another penny of silver ordered to be struck of the weight of the fourth part (eleven grains and a quarter) of the new gross of Ireland, and to have the same impression as the said gross, that is, a crown on one side; and a cross on the other, with the name of the place where struck.

1470. Many acts of this reign are wanting, among which probably were some relating to coins, particularly to Numb. 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69 and 70, Plate III. these two last I conjecture to have been struck, before this unfortunate prince was dethroned by Edward IV. Number 69 has on one side his head crowned, in a double tressure, with this legend, ✠ HENRICVS. DEI. GRACIA REX. AGL; reverse, the cross and three pellets in each quarter, with the motto POSVI. DEVM, &c. and in the inner circle, CIVITAS DVBLINIE. Numb. 70, has likewise the king's head in a tressure or rose, with dots or annulets on each side of the head, and this inscription, ✠ HENRICVS. DEI. GRA. DNS. HYBER. with the same reverse as the last, and CIVITAS DVBLINIE. The pieces, Numb. 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and their half Numb. 67, and 68, have on one side an escutcheon divided by a cross pommeté, into four quarters, viz. 1 and 4, France; 2 and 3, England; and on the reverse, three open crowns in pale on the like cross, with their inscriptions somewhat different. Number 62 has ✠ HENRICVS. DI. GRACIA REX. reverse, CIVITAS, WATERFORD. Numb. 63, HENRIC. DI. GR. REX. reverse, CIVITAS. DVBLINIE. The others want his name, and have only on one side, REX. ANGLIE. FRANCIE. reverse, DOMINVS HIBERNIE. Some of these have a flower de luce, a star or mullet, and the figure 8, mint marks. Whether these coins were struck before the year 1460, or after the year 1470, during the short time this prince had re-assumed the crown, is hard to ascertain: but by the letter H, which is on all the pieces with the three crowns, one might be tempted to believe, that they were coined during that short period, as it seems to be a distinguishing mark from those of Edward IV. struck before that time. These pieces weigh from twenty-four to twenty-nine grains each, the half from thirteen to fourteen grains and a half; their original weight was, I presume, thirty grains, as they were probably intended for three penny and three half-penny pieces, though not worth above two pence the one, and one penny the other; but as we have already observed, silver was raised here one fourth part more than it was in the beginning of this reign, when the pound of silver in England was cut into ninety groats; and in the forty-ninth year of this prince, into one hundred and twelve groats, whereby the value of silver was also raised there, one fourth or twenty-five *per cent* *.

* By an English statute, 1 Hen. VI. cap. 2. in as many places as they please. And by another statute of his second year, cap. 6. that no money to be coined, and exchanges to be holden gold or silver shall be exported, on pain of for-

Although many acts of parliament passed during this reign are wanting, yet, we EDW. IV. A. D. 1460. have more records concerning the coins of Edward IV. struck in this kingdom, than we can find either of the preceding or subsequent reigns. In his first year^k, a maille and a quadrant of silver, (a half-penny and a farthing) were ordered to be struck in the castle of Dublin, according to the rate of, and to bear the same writing and crown as the new denier, (by which is meant the denier (penny) struck or ordered to be struck, this year, by the late king, being the thirty-eight of his reign); whence follows that this half-penny was to weigh five grains five eighths, and the farthing two grains $\frac{1}{2}$, or three grains. From the smallness of these coins, liable to be soon worn, and easily lost, great variance arose among the king's subjects; wherefore, by an act^l, of his second year, it was enacted, that a coin of copper mixed with silver 1461. should be struck in the castle of Dublin, having on one side a cross, with the name of the place, where struck, and on the other side, a crown, with suns and roses within the circumference of the said crown. A warden of the mint and master of the money was likewise appointed for that purpose^m. In his third year, an act was 1463. passedⁿ, for confirming letters patent, by him granted some time before, to Germyn Lynch, of London, goldsmith, whereby he was appointed warden and master-worker of the monies to be struck in the castles of Dublin and Trim; and, at the same time, new species were ordered to be made, with reference to the act of 38 Henry VI. These coins were, a piece of silver of the value of four pence, one hundred and twenty of such pieces to the pound, troy, or ten to the ounce: Another piece of silver, of the value of two pence, two hundred and forty of them to the pound, and twenty to the ounce: Another piece of silver, of the value of one penny, four hundred and eighty to the pound, and to the ounce forty: Also eight pieces of brass running at, and of the value of one penny, of the said silver. These several coins were to have the same stamp and impression, as those ordered to be struck by the aforesaid act of 38 Henry VI; and pursuant to this patent they were to weigh, the groat forty-four grains $\frac{1}{2}$, and, I suppose, with the allay, forty-five grains; the half-groat twenty-two grains and a half, and the penny eleven grains one fourth. By this act, leave was given to the said Lynch, to make four pieces of brass or copper, running at one penny of silver, to have on one side, the figure of a bishop's head, and round it, the word, *Patrick*, and on the other side, a cross, with the word, *Salvator*. The said Lynch was thereby impowered to strike the above-mentioned coins, not only in the castles of Dublin and Trim, as expressed in the king's patent, but also in the cities of Waterford, Limerick, and town of Galway, and was further ordered to stamp on these silver coins, on the side of the cross, the motto, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*; and on the side of the crown, *Edwardus Dei gratia Dominus Hiberniæ*; together with the name of the place where struck, as, *Civitas Dublinie*, *Civitas Waterford*, *Civitas*

feiting the value thereof save only for the ransom of prisoners, or the reasonable costs of soldiers passing beyond seas. The discoverer to have one fourth part of the value so discovered.

^k Appendix, No. 6. ^l Ibid. No. 7.

^m Annal. anonim. in bibl. Cotton.

ⁿ Appendix, No. 8.

Edw. IV. *Limerici*. And that he should have privy marks on the monies by him struck by virtue of this act*.

A. D.

1463.

1465.

In the fifth year of this prince, a parliament was held at Trim, before Thomas earl of Desmond, deputy to George duke of Clarence; when it was enacted, that all the gold coins struck in England in the time of Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. should be raised in value, *viz.* the noble, to ten shillings, the half-noble to five shillings, and the quadrans, or quarter-noble, to two shillings and six-pence; whereas, before this act, they passed here, as in England, equally, the noble, at eight shillings and four pence, the half-noble, at four shillings and two pence, and the quarter-noble, at two shillings and one penny; although there was a real difference, both as to the weight and intrinsic value, in the nobles of these different coinages; as will appear from this short table.

1. The florens of Edward III. of his eighteenth year, (the first gold coin struck in England, since the Norman conquest) at 6s. 4d. each, with their halves and quarters in proportion. These florens weighed 108 grains, troy, and would be worth of our present Irish currency, 20s. 7d.

2. Nobles of the same year, at 6s. 8d. weight 136 grains, with their halves and quarters in proportion, worth Irish, 26s. $1\frac{1}{2}d.$

3. Nobles of his twentieth year, at 6s. 8d. weight 128 grains, with their halves and quarters in proportion, worth Irish, 24s. $6\frac{1}{4}d.$

4. Nobles of his twenty-seventh year, at 6s. 8d. weight, 120 grains, with their halves and quarters in proportion, worth Irish, 22s. $10\frac{1}{8}d.$

5. Nobles of Richard II. at 6s. 8d. weight 120 grains, with their halves and quarters in proportion, worth Irish, 22s. $10\frac{1}{8}d.$

6. Nobles of Henry IV. at 6s. 8d. weight 108 grains, with their halves and quarters in proportion, worth Irish, 20s. 7d.

7. Nobles of Henry V. same weight and value.

8. Nobles of Henry VI. the same.

9. Nobles of Edward IV. of his fourth year, were raised to 8s. 4d. English, the same weight and value.

10. Nobles of Edward IV. of this year, at 10s. with halves and quarters in proportion, weight 120 grains, worth of our present currency, 22s. $10\frac{1}{8}d.$

Sir John Davis says[†], that from this time all money coined in, or for Ireland, was of less value than the English, generally one fourth part, so that from thence forward the Irish shilling was worth only nine pence English: but he is mistaken, if he dates the rise of the silver in Ireland, from that of the gold, by this act; for the nobles passed equally in England for 10s. as appears evidently from those struck there

* By a statute of this parliament, it was enacted, that no clipped money should be received in payment. See Appendix, No. 8.

† The roll of this act is lost, at least not to be found, but is recited in that of his seventh year. See Appendix, No. 9. Reports, p. 22.

this year. The value of silver was actually raised in England and Ireland in the pre-^{Edw. IV.}ceding reign; and in this, (*An. 1464*) William lord Hastings, the king's chamberlain, being master of the mints throughout England and Ireland, both gold and silver were raised one fourth part, *viz.* the Noble, from six shillings and eight pence, to eight shillings and four pence, and the parts in proportion^{A. D. 1465.}.

In the seventh year of this prince, an act^{1467.} was passed, (reciting the before-mentioned statute of his fifth year) whereby it was enacted, that the Noble of due weight should pass for ten shillings and the parts proportionably, and that the deficiency in the weight of such pieces, should be no reason, for their being refused, but that the value of such want of weight, should be paid in current silver. The value of the Noble was not hereby raised, at more than it was then current for in England, but it equally passed for ten shillings, in both kingdoms. And the value of silver was likewise raised, equally in England and Ireland, one fourth part; that is, the groats were made one fourth part less in weight. Sir John, therefore, could not justly date from this period, the difference in the currency between the English and Irish money; since the English groat did not, at that time, weigh above two grains three fourths more than the Irish groat. However, we draw near a period, when the price of silver was monstrously raised in this kingdom, though but for a short time; for, by the above act it was ordained, that a piece of silver should be struck, called a double, to pass in Ireland for eight pence, having on one side the print of a crown, with this inscription, *Edwardus Dei gratiâ Dominus Hiberniæ*; and on the other side a sun and a rose, with *Civitas Dublinie*. Ten such pieces to go to the ounce, according to the rightful standard of the tower of London, and twelve such ounces to the pound; that there should be in every pound one hundred and twenty such pieces of the said weight. Also another piece of silver, called a gross, having the print and inscriptions, aforesaid on each side, and to pass for four pence, twenty such pieces to go to an ounce of the Tower-weight, and two hundred and forty to the pound of the said standard. Also a piece of silver of two deniers, or half groat, of the proportion aforesaid, of which forty such pieces to go to the ounce. Likewise a piece of silver, called the denier, (penny) eighty of them to the ounce, besides the allay. Half-pennies and farthings to be made according to the same proportions, imprinted as the denier, with an inscription as long as it could be made. These coins to be struck in the castles of Dublin and Trim, the cities of Waterford and Limerick, the towns of Drogheda, Galway, and Carlingford. The merchant to have for an ounce of Bullion, six shillings of the said pieces, and the king the residue, paying the master and workmen for their labor; and nobody after the Easter following, to receive or pay any manner of silver money, but the coin or money aforesaid; and all other coins to be annulled in Ireland; paying or receiving in payment such annulled money, being made felony. These coins are very rare, and except the groat and penny, I have not seen any of them. The groat has on one side the king's head crowned, and this

¹ Stowe's annals, Lownd. p. 40.

² Appendix, No. 9.

EDW. IV. inscription, EDWARD. DI. GRA. DNS. HYB. reverse, a rose in the center, and a sun filling the whole area of the inner circle, with this inscription, CIVITAS. DVBLINIE. It weighs though pretty much worn, twenty-two grains and a half. The penny has on one side a large rose filling the area of the inner circle with a cross in the center, and EDW. . . . the rest of the letters are clipped or worn out; reverse, a sun filling likewise the whole area of the circle, and CIVI. . . worn as it is, it weighs six grains and a half.

These coins, according to the standard of the tower of London, of five thousand three hundred and seventy-six troy grains, to the pound, should weigh, viz. the double forty-four grains $\frac{1}{4}$; the half-double, or groat, twenty-two grains and a half; the half-groat, eleven grains one fourth; the penny, five grains five eighths; the half-penny two grains $\frac{1}{8}$; and the farthing one grain $\frac{1}{4}$, besides the allay, which added in a certain proportion, made them of an even number of grains, as forty-eight, twenty-four, twelve, six, three, and one grain and a half. It appears by this, that the value of silver was at this time raised to double of what it was in the last reign, from three shillings and four pence the ounce, to six shillings and eight pence, when the groat weighed as much, as the double-groat struck by virtue of this act. However, the consequence and hardship of it being soon felt, by the prodigious

1470. rising of all manner of provisions and necessities; the next parliament, (the tenth of this prince) thought proper, in order to remedy this evil, to enact, that the master of the mint should strike in the castles of Dublin and Trim, and the town of Drogheda, five different sorts of silver coins, according to the standard of the tower of London, viz. the gross, the demy-gross, the denier, the demy-denier, and the quadrant, or farthing. The gross to have on one side, the print of a head crowned with this inscription, *Edwardus Dei gratiâ Rex Angliæ Dominus Hiberniæ*, or the name of any other king for the time being, and, on the other side, a cross, with three pellets, according to the gross made in Calais, and the name of the place where struck, and in the outer circle, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*. Eleven of these groats to make an ounce troy-weight, and every one of them, not clipped, to pass for four pence; the half-groat to be made in like manner, with the same inscriptions; twenty-two to make the ounce, and every one of them, not clipped, to pass for two pence; the like to be observed proportionably in the other smaller pieces. The fifth part of every pound, was to be made into small pieces; that is, of two deniers, deniers, half-deniers, and farthings; to be allayed in every ounce of the same, according to the statute of the fifth of this prince, which, as before observed, is not to be found; we cannot therefore give any just account of the fineness of these coins. The groats of this coinage, at the rate of eleven pieces to the ounce troy, must have weighed forty-three grains $\frac{2}{3}$, the half-groat, twenty-one grains $\frac{2}{3}$, the penny, ten grains $\frac{2}{3}$, and with the allay, at least forty-five grains, twenty-two grains and a half, and eleven grains one fourth. The English groat of this reign weighed about forty-six grains and a half. From this time we may date the difference in the cur-

rency, between the English and Irish money; for, by this statute, the pound of EDW. IV. A. D. 1470. Bullion is to be shorn into one hundred and thirty-two groats, or forty-four shillings by tale, whereas in England, the like pound was cut into one hundred and twelve groats and a half, or thirty-seven shillings and six pence, whereby the difference is six shillings and six pence in the value of a pound of silver, or seventeen one third *per cent.* and not twenty-five *per cent.* or a fourth part. I must own that some of our Irish money is found to be greatly short of its lawful weight, having been made much lighter than the standard above mentioned; for which reason, Germyn Lynch, master of the mints of Ireland, was indicted, *An. 12 Edward IV. (1462)* "for that when the statute said, that every pound of Bullion coined, should be forty-four shillings in money, he coined out of every pound forty-eight shillings, and that he coined at Drogheda one thousand groats, which being tried, it was found that eleven weighed but three quarters of an ounce". The money struck before, by virtue of the act 7 Edward IV. was by this reduced and ordered to pass, *viz.* The double, or piece of eight pennies, for four pence; the demy-double, for two pence; the half-groat, for one penny; the denier, for half a penny; and after the feast of the purification next ensuing, to be annulled, and not to be taken for a coin. And whosoever should pay or receive any clipped money, after the Christmas following, to be adjudged and taken as an attainted traitor.

By another act of this year*, it was enacted, that all grosses should pass in Ireland, as they did in the days of Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. in England and Calais, every piece not clipped for five pence; the half-groat at two pence half-penny; and the denier at one penny farthing; the noble of gold at ten shillings; the crown at five shillings; and the quadrant at two shillings and six pence each; and whatever they might be deficient in weight, to be made good in current silver; and that whosoever refused to take them should lose his debt. 1472.

Notwithstanding all the care seemingly taken of the coin of this kingdom by the legislature; yet it appears by two subsequent acts of the eleventh and twelfth of this prince, that a great deal of light and bad money had been coined in the castles of Dublin and Trim, the city of Cork, and the towns of Drogheda, Youghall, Kinsale, and Kilmallock, for which, Lynch, master of the mints of Ireland, was, as I observed before, indicted, and (*An. 13 Edward IV.*) found guilty: but the king having, by letters patent, granted him his pardon in 1473*, he was again employed.

By a statute of the twelfth and thirteenth of Edward IV., it was ordained, that 1473. the gross, the demy-gross, the denier, the demy-denier, and the quadrant, should for the time to come be struck within the castle of Dublin, and in no other place in Ireland; and that the ounce of silver, according to the standard of the tower of London, should contain, or be cut into fourteen grosses, twenty-eight half-grosses,

* Madden's MSS. Trin. coll. lib. cl. F. tab. 4. No. 24.

* Appendix, No. 11.

* Appendix, No. 11 and 12.

* Madden's MSS. ut supra.

* Appendix, No. 13.

EDW. IV. fifty-six deniers, one hundred and twelve half-deniers, or two hundred and twenty-four quadrants or farthings; the number of each kind aforesaid to make the ounce, every gross to pass at the rate of four pence, and the other parts in proportion. The king, the master and workmen, were to receive three pence in every ounce of groats, four pence in every ounce of the other sorts, and no more. And the merchant for what plate or bullion he brought to the mint, was to receive four shillings and five pence for every ounce of groats, and four shillings and four pence for the other sorts. One fifth part of all the Bullion brought into the mint, was to be coined into small pieces of two pennies, one penny, half-penny, and farthings, under the penalty of ten pounds. Here we find the value of silver raised again, and brought to fifty-six shillings in the pound by tale, and the difference between the value of the English and Irish groat to be near fifty *per cent.* in a pound of bullion: for the weight of the groat is hereby reduced to thirty-two grains, the half-groat to sixteen grains, the penny to eight grains, the half-penny to four grains, and the farthings to two grains; so that the ounce of silver was now worth four shillings and eight pence.

1475. It was this year enacted^a, that the grosses made in time of Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. not clipped, should pass at the rate of six pence, the demy-groat at three pence, the denier at three half pence. The English groat of the present king, not clipped, at five pence, his half-groat at two pence half-penny, and the denier at one penny farthing; and all the monies struck in Ireland, to be of the same value as they then were. All the mints of Ireland were to cease, except those of Dublin, Waterford and Drogheda; and no more than one third part of all the bullion brought into the said mints, to be coined into two-penny pieces, pennies, and farthings, under the penalty of ten pounds, *toties quoties*.

1476. The following year, the silver money lately struck at Cork, Youghall, Limerick, and other places in Munster, except Waterford, being found neither lawful in itself, nor of lawful weight or allay, was by an act of parliament^a decryed, and forbidden to be paid or taken in payment; and the piece of gold, called the royal^b, whence rial, ordered to pass in Ireland, at thirteen shillings and four pence, the demy-royal, at six shillings and eight pence; the piece of gold called the angel^c, at eight shillings and four pence, the half-angel at four shillings and two pence; the old Noble of gold, at twelve shillings, the half-noble at six shillings; and every lesser piece of the same kind of gold coins, to pass in proportion at the same rates; the deficiency, or lackage in weight, to be made good in current silver. And in order to encourage the importation of foreign monies, it was also enacted, that the Rider, fine and good, should pass for five shillings; the Ducat, for five shillings; the

^a Appendix, No. 14.

Ibid. No. 15.

^b The Royal weighed one hundred and twenty grains, and would now be worth of our present

currency, twenty-two shillings and ten pence one eighth.

^c The Angel weighed eighty grains, and would be worth fifteen shillings one penny one twelfth.

Lyon, for five shillings; the Crown, for five shillings; the Crusade, for five shillings; the Burgundy noble, for ten shillings; the Salute, for five shillings; the halves and quarters, in proportion; and that, if any of the said coins, should be deficient in weight, so much should be abated in payment. We may here observe that the gold noble, which, in the fifth year of this prince, was raised to ten shillings, is in this raised to twelve shillings, and the other species in proportion; such was the scarcity of money in this poor country.

EDW. IV.
A. D.
1476.

This year an act was passed^d, whereby it was enacted, that the liberties of Meath should be restored, with full power to Henry, lord Grey, seneschal and treasurer of Meath, by himself, or his officers, to strike all manner of coins in the castle of Trim, according to such fineness and allay, as in a statute for that purpose was provided. The statute, hereto referred, is not to be found; but it appears from Sir James Ware^e, that in a parliament held this year, before Gerald, earl of Kildare, liberty was granted to the master of the mint to strike pieces of three pennies, two pennies, and of one penny, and that these coins were to be stamped, on one side, with three crowns in pale on a cross pometé, with this inscription, *Dominus Hiberniæ*; and on the reverse, the arms of England, divided by the like cross, and round it, *Rex Angliæ et Franciæ*. I find, indeed, an act of the nineteenth of this king, whereby it was enacted^f, that Germyn Lynch, master of the minters, should have power to strike money at four shillings and ten pence *per ounce*, rendering to the merchant four shillings and four pence, and to the king and workmen six pence, according to the standard of the tower of London, which must be understood here only as to the allay, and not as to the weight of the Tower; for, as what I have weighed of these coins weigh from twenty-eight to thirty grains, it will thence appear, that eighteen of these three-penny pieces, at twenty-six grains three fourths each, will answer to four shillings and six pence, and to four hundred and eighty grains, the ounce troy, and that with the allay, they probably were to weigh thirty grains; if so, the groat must have weighed forty grains, and ten of them to have been cut out of the ounce troy; in which case silver was again reduced to near its former value. Moryson^g thinks, that these coins were stamped with the Pope's triple crown, and that they were of old sent hither by the Popes, or were so stamped in honor of them; others have thought, that as the arms of England and France are impressed on these coins, they could not belong to Edward IV. but that they should rather be ascribed to Henry VII. who was the first that had these arms stamped on the English silver coins. In answer to which, I shall observe, that the first pieces, with the three crowns, were struck, as we have seen before, in the reign of Henry VI; that that prince having been crowned king of France, at Paris, had, in consequence thereof, the three crowns of England, France and Ireland, stamped on these coins; and that as he had the arms of France and England quartered on his French and English

1478.

1479.

^d Appendix, No. 16.

^e Ware's antiq. by Harris, p. 215.

^f Appendix, No. 17.

^g Moryson's travels, Lond. 1617, p. 283.

EDW. IV. gold monies, it was thought proper to have these arms stamp'd on his Irish groats, or three penny pieces, which were the most valuable coins allowed to be struck in Ireland.
A. D.
1479.

By what has been said of the monies, struck in this reign, it will be easy to judge how almost impossible it is to give a just and true account of their weight. We have a surprising variety of this prince's coins, as to their mint or privy-marks, as will appear by looking over Number 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91 and 92. Plate IV. Numb. 114 and 115. Plate V. and Numb. 168. Plate VIII. Some of these were struck in Dublin, Waterford, and Limerick; others, at Drogheda and Trim. I have not met with any of those that were coined at Cork, Galway, Killmallock, Youghall, Kinsale, or Carlingford. What I have of these coins, weigh, *viz.* The groat with the head, from twenty-eight to thirty-three grains; the pieces with three crowns, from twenty-eight and a half to thirty grains; the half-groats with the head, fourteen to sixteen grains; the half-piece with the three crowns, fourteen to fifteen grains; the penny with the head, seven grains; and that with the three crowns, also seven grains.

Some of these pieces have on one side the king's head crowned with this inscription, EDWARD. DI. GRA. REX. ANGL.—FRANC.—Others, EDWARDVS. DEI. GRA. DNS. HYBER. reverse, the cross and three pellets in each quarter, with the motto, POSUI. DEVM. ADIVTOREM MEVM. and in the inner circle, the name of the place, CIVITAS DVBLINIE.—CIVITAS WATERFORD.—CIVITAS. LIMERICI.—VILLA DE. DROGHEDA.—Others have the scutcheon of England, and this inscription, EDWAR REX ANGLE. FRANC. reverse, the three crowns, and DOMINVS HYBERNIE. Another has also the scutcheon of England, and this epigraphe, REX AGLE. FRANCIE. reverse, the three crowns, as the last mentioned, in pale, on a cross pommeté, and DOMINVS HYBERNIE.—Mint-marks, a sun, a rose, a crown, a cross, a star, a mullet, a trefoil, a G, an L and a V. The sun was the favourite devise of this prince, and as at the battle of Barnet, his men wore that badge, and the earl of Warwick's men a rose, it was to a lucky mistake for him, occasioned by the likeness of the one to the other, that he owed the gaining of that battle^b; which is the reason, why we so often see both as privy-marks on his monies*.

EDW. V. This prince's reign was so short, that he was not crowned; nor is it probable that he coined any money, at least in Ireland.
A. D.
1483.

RICH. III Such abuses had crept into the mints, during the last three years of Edward IV. and the public had suffered so much thereby, that the first thing the parliament did this year, was to take cognizance of it, and to turn Germyn Lynch, mint-master-general, out of his place. It was at the same time enactedⁱ, that the master of the mint

^b Stow's annals, Baker chron. *ad An.* 1471.

* The mint mark, or privy mark, is a mark of fancy, which it has been usual of old time, to oblige the masters of the mint, by the indentures made with them, to put on all the money that they made, of what kind of metal soever, that in case any of

these coins should be found not to be of lawful weight and standard, or according to agreement, they might at any time know and justify which was of their own making, and which was not.

ⁱ Appendix, No. 18.

for the time being, should make four kinds of silver coins, viz. Grosses, Demy-RICH. III
Grosses, Deniers, and Demy-Deniers, in such manner, and in such place, as was A. D.
ordained by the statute of the tenth of Edward IV. and of such allay, and with such 1483.
remedy in the weight of every twenty shillings, as ordered by the statute of the twelfth
year of that prince. The said Gross, Demy-Gross, Denier and Demy-Denier, to
have on one side the arms of England, with a cross trefoile, and this inscription,
Ricardus Dei gratiâ Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ; and on the other side three
crowns, one over the other, with the like cross, and round it, the name of the place,
where lawfully coined. The pound troy was to be cut into two hundred and twenty-
five Grosses at four pence each, and proportionably of the other denominations,
that is four hundred and fifty Half-Grosses, at two pence each, and nine hundred
Deniers, at one penny. The merchant to be paid four shillings and six pence for every
ounce of bullion, brought into the mint; and all counterfeit money, was hereby de-
cried and prohibited.

According to this statute, the Groat, at the rate of two hundred and twenty-five
to the pound troy, was to weigh twenty-five grains $\frac{1}{4}$, the Half-groat, twelve grains
four fifths, and the Penny, six grains four tenths; yet it appears that they weighed
more; for, I have one of these Groats, which, though pretty much worn, and clipped,
weighs twenty-eight grains three fourths, and cannot have lost less than one grain
and one fourth; whence the weight will appear to have been, at least, thirty grains,
and the difference between the English and Irish Groat of this prince, to be about
sixty per cent. This groat, Plate V. Numb. 96, has on one side the scutcheon
of England, and this inscription, RICAR. REX. ANGLE. FRANCE. reverse, the three
crowns in pale on a cross pommeté, and DOMINUS HYBERNIE. a small cross, mint-
mark.

The current coin of this kingdom was so clipped, that on the fifteenth of April, HEN. VII
1491, a law was made here^k to prohibit the paying or receiving any clipped or coun- A. D.
terfeit money, and in the fourteenth^l and nineteenth^m years of this prince, acts were 1485.
likewise passed in England, forbidding its being imported thither from Ireland,
above the value of three shillings and four pence. It seems therefore very reasonable
to think, that there must have been some coinage in Ireland, about that time at least,
in order to supply the want of good and lawful species; but we find no records that
can afford us any light in this matter. About this time the difference between the
English and Irish money, was one third in value, as appears from a letter of Octavian,
archbishop of Armagh, to the king in 1487, recommending Arthur Magennis to that
prince, for the bishoprick of Dromore, wherein he says, that the revenue of that
diocess, is not worth above forty pounds, of the coin of Ireland, which is less by
the third part than the coin sterling. If, (as it seems very probable from Folke's
and Leake's accounts of the English Monies) this prince was the first, that had the
arched or imperial crown imprinted on his coins, we may then be positive, that there 1487.

^k Ware's antiq. ch. xxv. edit. 1704.

^m Engl. stat. 19 Henry VII.

^l Annal. anonim. bibl. Cotton, ut supra.

HEN. VII was money struck in Ireland in his reign: for I have some groats, on one side whereof
 A. D. is a head, full-faced and crowned, some with a single, and others with a double
 1487. arched crown, and this inscription, ✠ HENRICVS. DI. GRA. REX. AGL. Z. FR.—✠ HEN-
 RIC. DEI. GRA. REX. ANG. Z. FR.—✠ HENRIC. DI. GRA. REX. ANG. Z. FRA.—Reverse,
 POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM MEVM, and in the inner circle, CIVITAS DVBLINIE. See Plate
 V. Numb. 97, 98, 99. The last of these has on the reverse, in the center of the
 cross, a boar's head, mint-mark; and though much clipped and worn, they weigh
 from twenty-seven to thirty-one grains, and making a proper allowance for the wear,
 we may reasonably compute them to have been about one third part less than the
 English Groat of that time.

HEN VIII In the beginning of this prince's reign, the current coin of this kingdom, was so
 A. D. miserably clipped and defaced, and withal so scarce, that the earl of Surrey, lord
 1509. lieutenant of Ireland, was obliged to sue for his being recalled, for want of money,
 and supplies from England, to carry on the war against the rebels here; and the mayor
 of Dublin gave but one Crusadoe to the messenger, who brought him Shane O
 Toole's head, slain by the earl of Kildare: and that, by reason of its being so clipped,
 they were then obliged to pay or receive it by weight, appears from archbishop Allan*,
HEN VIII who says, that the archbishop's cross having been pledged for a sum of money, by
 A. D. some person belonging to the priory of Christ-church, where this cross was usually
 1530. kept, he released it at his own expence, and that it cost him near an hundred ounces
 of silver.

Notwithstanding such a scarcity and want of money, it doth not appear that there
 was any struck here before the year 1530, the twenty-first of this prince, when he
 coined new groats, and perhaps Two-penny pieces and Pennies. Bishop Nicholson
 says^p, that the first Irish money, coined in this reign, was struck in the thirty-second
 year of that king, which falls in 1540: but I must beg leave to differ from that
 learned prelate, and to offer my reasons for it. I have a Groat of this prince, (Plate
 V. Numb. 104) which has on one side, the arms of England, in a scutcheon, di-
 vided by a cross, and crowned with an arched crown, with this inscription, HENRIC.
 VIII. D. R. AGL. Z. Reverse, a harp crowned between the letters H. R. each also
 crowned, and round it, FRANC. DOMIVS. HIBER. here the antient motto, POSVI, &c. is
 left out, and the harp for the first time appears on the Irish coins. This piece I
 presume was struck in the year 1530, before his marriage with Ann Bullen, which
 did not happen till the following year, 1531, when instead of H. R. he had on the re-
 verse of the Groats, struck that year, the letters H. A, for Henry and Ann. See Plate
 V. Numb. 105. In 1536, after his marriage with Jane Seymour, he then ordered
 the two letters H. I. to be stamped on the Groats of that year, for Henry and Jane. See
 Plate V. Numb. 106. And in 1540, having married Catherine Howard, the letters
 H. K. were likewise stamped on the Groats of that year's coinage. See Plate V.
 Numb. 107. All these coins, with these different letters, could not, certainly, be

* Ware's annals, p. 70. edit. 1704.

* Allan's register.

^p Irish hist. lib. p. 165. Ware's antiqu. by
 Harris, p. 217.

struck in the same year, nor so late as the thirty-second year of this prince. "In HEN VIII
 "these days," says Sir James Ware^a, "were coined, &c." he doth not say, this A. D.
 year were coined, &c. which shews that these coins were struck at different periods 1530.
 of time.

This prince having, in his thirty-third year, assumed the title of king of Ireland, 1541.
 was so proclaimed, the thirteenth of June, in St. Patrick's church, near Dublin.
 On this occasion there was a new kind of Groats struck, like the former as to their
 shapes and stamps, but different in the stile. On these the inscription, on one side,
 is HENRIC. VIII. DI. GRACIA. ANGLIE. and on the reverse, FRANCIE. Z. HIBERNIE. REX,
 with the harp crowned between the two letters H. R. See Plate V. Numb. 108. All
 these Groats weigh from thirty-six to thirty-nine grains, and were probably struck at
 the rate of forty grains each, that is one hundred and forty-four pieces to the
 pound, or twelve to the ounce. They are of a very indifferent metal, nine ounces
 six penny weight fine, and two ounces fourteen penny weight allay; for which reason,
 an act was passed in England, prohibiting their being imported thither from Ireland,
 under forfeiture of treble the value, with fine and imprisonment. 1544.

In his thirty-sixth year there was an indenture made^c with Martin Bowes and others,
 for making two sorts of monies for Ireland, (eight ounces fine, and four allay) viz.
 Six-penny-pieces, at the rate of one hundred and forty-four pieces to the pound,
 and Three-penny pieces, at the rate of two hundred and eighty-eight to the pound,
 which answers to the weight of his English Four-penny and Two-penny pieces. These
 have on one side the king's head crowned, full-faced, but a little inclining to the left,
 with this inscription, HENRIC. 8. D. G. AGL. FRA. Z. HIB. REX. reverse, the arms of
 England, and round it, CIVITAS. DVBLINIE. I have two of these Six-pences; one of
 which weighs thirty-three and the other thirty-five grains; the Three-penny piece
 weighs fourteen grains and a half. They have by wear lost the difference, from their
 original weight forty-grains the one, and twenty grains the other. See Plate V. 1546.
 Numb. 100, 101, 102.

In his thirty-eighth year another kind of Six-penny piece was struck, which see
 Plate V. Numb. 103. These have on one side the arms of England, divided, as those
 mentioned before, by the old cross, and crowned, and this legend, HENRIC. 8. D. G.
 ANG. FRANC., reverse, the harp crowned, between the letters H. R. and, ET HIBERNIE.
 REX. 38. vy. This piece weighs thirty-two grains one fourth. "About this time,
 "says Ware^c, king Henry, to maintain his charges in Ireland, being now hard put
 "to it for lack of monies, by reason of the vast treasure wasted in his expeditions
 "into France, and Scotland, and compelled by necessity, he gave directions to coin
 "brass money, and commanded it, by proclamation, to pass for current and lawful
 "money in all parts of Ireland." Indeed, except the first mentioned Groats, which
 were not so bad, the money struck in this reign was little better than brass, not above
 four ounces fine, and eight allay, although, according to the indenture, they were to

^a Annals, p. 104. Edit. 1784.

^c Annals, p. 113.

^c Mint books at the Tower, Leake, p. 209.

HEN VIII be eight ounces fine, and four allay; so that, if we value the ounce of silver, at four shillings and six-pence, to which, from two shillings and eight pence, it was raised
A. D.
1546. in the three preceding reigns, we shall find that in a pound weight of this money, there was but eighteen shillings worth of silver, with one shilling's worth of copper, and the whole value of this metal to be nineteen shillings, which was made current for three pound twelve shillings. This prince's coins have for mint-marks, a harp, a crown, a rose, a trefoile, and a flower de luce.

EDW. VI. In the second year of Edward VI. Sir Edward Bellingham¹, lord justice of Ire-
A. D.
1546-7. land, by the king's command, ordered money to be coined in the castle of Dublin, where a mint was kept, "which, says Hooker², being at his commandement, he was "the better able to do good service to his Majestie, and to the benefit of that "Realme." But after a while³, for want of bullion, by little and little the work decayed. Whence it is inferred⁴, that from this time, mints were discontinued in Ireland: but according to Moryson, "the Irish had a mint-house, at the beginning "of queene Elizabeth's raigne."⁵

1551. In the fourth year of this prince, an indenture was made with Martyn Piri⁶, August the ninth, for four sorts of silver pieces to be coined in Dublin, viz. Groats, worth four pence sterling, Half-groats, at two pence, Pennies, and Half-pennies: one hundred and forty-four groats to weigh one pound weight, two hundred and eighty-eight half-groats, five hundred and seventy-six pennies, &c. according to which standard, the Groat was to weigh forty grains, the Half groat, twenty grains, the Penny, ten grains, and the Half-penny, five grains; but what stamp and inscription they bare, I cannot tell; I find it no where recorded, and have not had, as yet, the good fortune to meet with any of them. The money of this reign, if any was coined, must have been of as bad a metal, as that of the last; since the king in his last year, "at the request of the council of Ireland, by proclamation commanded "that the Irish groats, which had too much brass allay, should pass only for "two pence in value, which conduced very much to the good of the people."⁷

MARY. Queen Mary, at her accession to the crown, in order that she might ingratiate
A. D.
1553. herself with her people in England, prohibited the currency of the base money there, and ordered gold and silver money to be made of a better standard. But Ireland was particularly excepted in the proclamation issued for that purpose⁸; she having a special standard for the coins, which she intended for that kingdom. Accordingly, she ordered, this year, Shillings, Groats, Two-penny pieces, and probably Pennies, to be struck for this kingdom; but of as course and base a metal, as any made use of, in the two last reigns. Forty of these shillings, I suppose, went to the pound troy, and weighed each one hundred and forty-four grains, the Groat

¹ Annals, p. 118.

² Hooker's chron. of Ireland, in Holling. vol.

ii. p. 109.

³ Ware's annals ut supra.

⁴ Davis's reports, p. 26.

⁵ Moryson's travels, p. 283.

⁶ Irish hist. lib. p. 166.

⁷ Ware's annals, p. 127.

⁸ Leake on English coins, p. 230.

forty-eight grains at the rate of one hundred and twenty to the pound, and the Two penny piece twenty-four grains, at the rate of two hundred and forty pieces to the pound. The Shilling of this year has her head crowned, in profile, looking to the right, and this inscription, MARIA. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REGINA. reverse the harp crowned, between the letters M. R. likewise crowned, and this legend, VERITAS. TEMPORIS. FILIA. MDLIII. The Groat is like the Shilling, and has the same inscriptions, but wants the date. The Two-pence has her head likewise crowned, and this epigraphe, MARIA. D. G. A. FR. Z. HIB. REGI. reverse, the harp crowned between the letters M. R. and VERITAS, &c. an annulet,-mintmark.

MARY.
A. D.
1553.

The second year of Philip and Mary, Sir Edmund Peckham, knight, treasurer of the mint of England, Thomas Stanley, comptroller, and William Knight, assay-master, or any two of them*, were impowered to make out of ten thousand pounds worth of base monies, brought into England by king Philip, Shillings at twelve pence Irish, forty of them, or one hundred and twenty groats, to the pound, and at the rate of three ounces fine and nine ounces allay; according to which, the Shilling weighed one hundred and forty-four grains, or six penny-weight, which answers pretty near to some of the best preserved that I have weighed. The Shilling has the king and queen's busts crowned, with the faces turned towards each other, and this inscription, PHILIP. Z. MARIA. D. G. REX. Z. REGINA. and the date of the year, 1555, under the busts, in the exergue; reverse, a crowned harp, between the letters P. M. also crowned, and this epigraphe, POSVIMVS. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. NOSTRVM. They weigh from five penny-weight ten grains, to five penny-weight twelve grains. The Groats are like the Shillings, save that the date, instead of being under, is above the heads. Of these we have with the dates 1555, 1556, 1557 and 1558. See Plate V. Numb. 112 and 113; they weigh from forty-two grains and a half to forty-four-grains.

PHILIP
and
MARY.
A. D.
1554.

1557.

On the nineteenth of September 1557, the English Rose-pennies of Henry VIII. and Edward VI. mixed with copper, were, by proclamation in England, prohibited there, and restrained to Ireland^d. And besides the ten thousand pounds of base monies struck for this kingdom, by virtue of the before-mentioned commission granted to Sir Edmund Peckham, knight, and others, they were, by a second, impowered to coin seven thousand pounds worth of the like base monies into shillings and groats; and in the third and fourth year of Philip and Mary, a third commission was granted for coining five thousand five hundred pounds more of these base coins, into Harp-groats for the use of Ireland, and of the same standard^e, so that in less than three years time, there was coined of these base monies to the value of twenty-two thousand five hundred pounds, besides what was struck in the first year of the reign of this queen, before her marriage.

This great princess was the first^f, who ordered the ounce of silver in England to be cut into sixty pennies; so that the penny which formerly was the twentieth

* Mint-books, Tower, London.

^d Ware's annals, p. 143.

^e Leake on English coins, p. 230 & seq.

^f Davis's reports, p. 24.

ELIZAB. part of an ounce, was then, as it is now, made the sixtieth part, and consequently
A. D. the antient penny of silver, at least such as were coined before the ninth year of
1558. Edward III. contained as much silver as is now worth three pence farthing of our present currency.

Though it is said^c, that in the beginning of this reign, we had here a mint of our own; yet it doth not appear that any kind of money was struck in this kingdom; but rather, that a commission^a was granted to Sir Edmund Peckham, knight, treasurer, Thomas Stanley, comptroller of the mint, in the tower of London, and others, to convert the base money then current in England, into Harp-shillings and groats, for the use of Ireland; and out of four thousand pound of this base coin, to make eight thousand pound in Harp-shillings, and Harp-groats, three ounces fine, and nine ounces alloy; forty such shillings to the pound troy, and of groats, one hundred and twenty. The shillings to weigh one hundred and forty-four grains, and the Groats forty-eight grains. These coins have on one side the queen's bust crowned, looking to the right, with this inscription; ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FRA. Z. HIB. REG. reverse, a harp crowned, between the letters E. R. also crowned, and round it the motto, POSVI. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. MEVM. See Plate VI. Numb. 116, and 117. I have one of these shillings, which weighs one hundred thirty-three grains and a half, and a groat, weighing forty-three grains and a half; the mint-marks a harp, and a rose.

No sooner was the base money decayed, and prohibited in England, but it was sent over in great quantities into this kingdom, where the Bungals, as they were then called, went for six pence, and the broad pieces for twelve pence; but in a short time after, the former passed for two pence, the latter for a groat; and when they were refused elsewhere, they passed in Connaught, the first for one penny, and the last for two pence*.

1560. About this time^d, the coin, which had been so debased, during the three former reigns, and in the beginning of this, was restored to near its former purity, and intrinsic value, as well in this kingdom, as in England. Whereupon an old Poet of those days made the following ballad^b.

Let bone-fires shine in every place,
 Sing, and ring the bells a-pace;
 And pray that long may live her grace,
 To be the good queen of Ireland.

The gold and silver which was so base,
 That no man could endure its scarce;
 Is now new-coyn'd with her own face,
 And made go current in Ireland.

^c Moryson's travels, p. 283.

^a Leake ut supra, p. 265.

^b Irish hist. lib. p. 168.

^d Ware's and Camden's annals of Eliz. ad An. cit.

^e Ware, ibid. p. 5.

A particular kind of money was, by order of the queen, struck for this kingdom, *viz.* Shillings of the value of nine pence English, to pass in Ireland for twelve pence. Whether there were half-shillings struck at this time, I know not, but I have seen the Groat. They are nearly of equal fineness with her English money of that year. ELIZAB. A. D. 1560.

The Shilling has on one side the queen's bust, her head crowned, looking to the right, and this inscription, ELIZABETH. D. G. A. F. ET HIBERNIE. REG. another has REGI. reverse, three harps in a shield crowned, between the date 15—61 and the motto, POSVI DEVM ADIVTOREM. MEVM. The Groat has likewise her head crowned and ELIZABETH. D. G. AN. F. Z. HIBERNIE. REG. reverse, three harps in a shield, between the date 15—61, and the motto, POSVI, &c. and both have a harp, mint-mark. See Plate VI. Numb. 118, and 119.

Eighty-two of these shillings, says Malynes¹, went to the pound, and therefore weighed seventy grains one fourth each, which is something heavier, in proportion, than the English shilling of that time, sixty-two whereof went to the pound and weighed ninety-two grains seven eighths, and our shilling being valued at the Tower, at nine pence English, that is, one fourth part less than the English shilling, it should therefore proportionably weigh one fourth part, or twenty-three grains $\frac{2}{3}$ less, and its full weight be sixty-two grains $\frac{1}{3}$. I have three of these shillings, which, though somewhat clipped and worn, weigh full sixty-nine grains; the Groat, though pretty much clipped, weighs full twenty-four grains, whereas, according to the above standard, it should have weighed but twenty-three $\frac{1}{3}$ from the mint. 1592.

In the fortieth year of this princess, I find mention made of an indenture^a with Sir John Martin, and Richard Martin his son, master-workers of the mint in the tower of London, for coining five different kinds of money for Ireland, *viz.* Shillings, to be current at twelve pence Irish, Half-shillings, or six-penny pieces, Quarter-shillings, or three-penny pieces, Pennies, and Half-pennies. And accordingly, certain quantities of each kind^a, were struck, sent over, and issued out for the payment of the army in this kingdom.

The money, coined by virtue of this indenture, was of a very base mixture of copper and silver, *viz.* three ounces of silver to nine ounces of brass. Its weight and impression were, I presume, the same with that of the species struck two years after; when, by virtue of another indenture^c, of her forty-third year, shillings, six-pences, and three-pences, were coined at the Tower, for the service of Ireland. These were still worse than the last, being but two ounces and eighteen penny-weight fine, and nine ounces two penny-weight allay^b; though Malynes says¹, they were three ounces fine, and according to him, eighty-two of the shillings went to the pound; consequently one hundred and sixty-four six-pences, and three hundred and eighty-eight three-pences: at this rate the Shilling must have weighed seventy grains one fourth; the Six-pence thirty-five grains one eighth; and the Three-pence seventeen grains $\frac{2}{3}$. 1601.

¹ Lex mercatoria, p. 305. Lond. 1622.

^a Appendix, No. 19.

^b Leake, p. 267.

^c Mint-books, Tower, Lond. Leake, p. 267.

^d Leake, *ibid.* Lex mercat. p. 282.

Lex Mercatoria, p. 305.

ELIZAB. Copper Pennies and Half-pennies, were also coined at the same time, one hundred and ninety and a half of the Pennies to the pound*, and of the Half-pennies three hundred and eighty-one.
A. D. 1601.

The Shillings and Six-pences of this mintage have on one side the arms of England, with this inscription, ELIZABETH. D. G. ANG. FR. ET. HIBER. REG. reverse, the crowned harp, and the motto, POSUI. DEVM. ADIVTOREM. MEVM. See Plate VI. Numb. 120 and 121. The Penny and Half-penny are like the Shilling and Six-pence, with this difference, that the shield on one side, is placed between the letters E. R. and the harp, on the other, between the date of the year 16—01.—16—02. See Plate VI. Numb. 122 and 123. The mint-marks on these shillings, six-pences, pennies and half-pennies, are, a crescent, a flower de luce, a trefoil, a mullet, or a cypher.

These pennies and half-pennies are by some*, thought, to have been the first copper-money struck in, or for Ireland; but I have shewed before, that in the reign of Edward IV. small money was coined in this kingdom, not only of silver mixed with brass or copper, but also of pure brass or copper.

“ The queen, says Sir John Davis”, in order to pay the wages of the royal army, “ which she kept in this kingdom for many years to suppress Tir-Oens rebellion”, “ caused great quantities of mixed monies to be made in the tower of London, with “ the usual stamp of the arms of England, and inscription of her royal stile, and to “ be transmitted into this kingdom, with her proclamation” bearing date the twenty- “ fourth of May, in her forty-third year, by which her majesty declares and “ establishes those mixed monies, immediately after said proclamation issued, to be “ the lawful and current money of this realm of Ireland, and expressly commands that “ they be so used, received and reputed by all her majesty’s subjects, and others, “ using any kind of traffic or trade in this kingdom; and that if any person or per- “ sons should refuse the said mixed monies, according to their denomination, or “ valuation, that is shilling for shilling, and *Sic de Cæteris*, being tendered in “ payment of wages, fees, stipends, or debts, that they should be punished as “ contemners of her majesty’s royal prerogative and commands; and in order “ to make this coin more current, it was also ordered by the said proclamation that, “ after the tenth of June. next ensuing, all other monies current in this kingdom “ should be annulled, esteemed as bullion, and not as the lawful and current money “ of said realm.”

Before this was brought about, many consultations were held in England, on a scheme of such consequence to the liberty, property and welfare of the subject; but though the queen was against it, yet it was carried by some of her ministers; and, as Camden fairly discloses the springs of the whole transaction, I shall here transcribe

* Lex Mercatoria, p. 305.

* Leake, p. 270.

* Moryson’s hist. Ireland, vol. i. p. 208. Dub. No. 20.

* Camden’s and Ware’s annals, Eliz. The proclamation is dated 29 May. Appendix,

his own words. " About this time, says he, was put forth a proclamation (con-
 " formable to a law enacted in the reign of Henry VII.) that no man should carry
 " over any English money into Ireland; in regard the rebels drew to themselves
 " a great part thereof, to buy munition and provision for the war; or else the mer-
 " chant transported it from thence into foreign parts, to the great detriment and pre-
 " judice of England. Serious deliberations were therefore now had about altering
 " the Irish coin, by mingling some brass with it, in regard the Irish war drew yearly
 " out of England above one hundred and sixty thousand pounds sterling. By this,
 " some were of opinion, that the charges of the war might be lessened: that all the
 " good money might by exchange be drawn out of Ireland into England; and the
 " rebels, when the good money failed, be excluded from all commerce with foreign-
 " ers, and consequently of necessity be weakened. Others argued on the contrary,
 " that this change of money would redound to the queen's dishonour, and the da-
 " mage of the subject; that the good money of Ireland could not be drawn thence
 " without a great charge to the queen: that the gain gotten hereby, if the new mo-
 " ney were coined in England, would not, when the accounts were cast up, coun-
 " tervail the charges of carrying it over; much less would the profit be, if it were
 " coined in Ireland, where a mint must necessarily be set up at great charges, and
 " minters must be hired at dear rates: neither could the commerce of the rebels with
 " foreigners be hindered by it, so long as there was silver in the new coin, which the
 " merchant knew well enough how to separate; to whom it is all one whether he re-
 " ceive one piece of money, or three of the same value. And that it was to be
 " feared the soldiers would mutiny, for hereby their pay would be diminished. But
 " Buchurst, lord treasurer, a man well skilled in money-matters, with much ado
 " extorted from the queen, out of necessity, (for that usually gives law to time) as
 " he alledged, that the money should be altered for a while, and he afterwards re-
 " called again to its full value; to which the queen of herself was averse, saying
 " often, that it would much reflect on her credit, and be displeasing to the army.—
 " To the army, certainly it proved a great prejudice: whether it turned to the ad-
 " vantage of the queen or no, I know not, but to the treasurer, and pay-masters,
 " without doubt it brought in good gain, whose covetous humour (which is
 " a diligent searcher of new ways to get money) may seem at first to have con-
 " trived it'."

ELIZAB.
A. D.
1601.

That this scheme was, and proved very prejudicial to this kingdom in general, and
 to the army in particular, as had been justly foreseen by those who were against it,
 appears from several passages in Moryson's history of those times. " The fifteenth
 " of May, says he, the lord deputy received by the hands of Sir George Carey,
 " treasurer of war, a proclamation signed by the queen, to be published for making
 " the new standard of mixed monies to be the only current in this kingdom; all other
 " coins to be brought in to the treasurer. And likewise a letter from the queen*

* Camden's annals of Eliz. p. 637. Lond. 1688.

* Appendix, No. 23, 24.

* Moryson's hist. Irel. vol. i. p. 234.

ELIZAB. " requiring the lord deputy and council to further the due execution of the contents
 A. D. " of this proclamation, and by some plausible graces, done in general to the sub-
 1601. " ject (in establishing an exchange of this coin into sterling money of England, &c.)
 " inviting all to swallow this bitter pill, which impoverished not only the rebels,
 " but her majesty's best servants in this kingdom, only enriching her pay-
 " masters sitting quietly at home, while others adventured daily their blood
 " in the service."

In order, therefore, to make the most of this jobb, and to engross the whole profit thereof to themselves; as this money was to be coined in England, for the use of Ireland, and to be there remitted by way of exchange, the authors of this scheme procured a patent^a from the queen in favour of the said Sir George Carey, treasurer at war, and vice-treasurer of Ireland, for erecting an office, called, *The office of her highness her exchange between England and Ireland*. And by indenture^b, between her majesty and the said Sir George Carey, he was constituted master of the said office in England and Ireland. And in the places by him appointed, every person, for twenty shillings delivered in Ireland, was to receive nineteen shillings in England, and for twenty shillings paid in England, to receive twenty-one shillings in Ireland. The said Sir George, being impowered to have deputies, in London, Bristol, and Chester, in England; and in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Carrickfergus in Ireland, or within any other cities, towns, or ports of England, and Ireland, or either of them.

This new coin being made current by several proclamations^c, and all other coins ordered to be brought to the exchange-office, all kinds of goods and provisions did of consequence rise in price to double their former value; which occasioned a general complaint, not only from the soldiers and officers, but from the lord deputy himself, who, in his letter^d to secretary Cecil of the seventh of November, 1601, says, " that his private estate was unable any longer to continue the expence, at " which he was forced to live, growing greater by the mixed coin, as he ever " thought it would fall very heavy upon him, by which reason he might value his " entertainment to be less by the half, than it was in the time of the old standard; " for whatsoever was bought with this new coin, was raised to the double price.— " And as the exchange soon failed, says Moryson^e, so did our hearts therewith: " for we served there, in discomfort and came home beggars, so that the treasurer " and pay-masters, (who were thereby enriched) had cause to bless the authors of " this invention."

The merchants, above all others, are most complained of, in several of the queen's proclamations, for raising the price of their goods about seventy or eighty *per cent.* and for refusing, or not taking enough of that base money, in exchange for what sterling money they had. And to make good this charge against them, different

^a Appendix, No. 19.

^b Ibid.

^c Moryson, vol. i. p. 359.

^d Appendix, No. 20, 21, 22.

^e Ibid. 208.

accounts* were sent over, on the pretended exorbitant profit they made on such goods as they either imported or manufactured.

ELIZAB.
A. D.
1601.

But the whole blame should have been laid on the inventors of that monstrous scheme, the lord-treasurer of England, Buckhurst, and his partner the vice-treasurer of Ireland, who being perhaps in great arrears, or having bought large estates, were willing to pay off one hundred thousand pounds with twenty-five thousand pounds.

For otherwise, how could the merchant, or the manufacturer be blamed, and even abused, for raising his wares upon such an occasion. Money has always been the standard and the rule of commerce among all nations; wherever it is raised above its intrinsic value, there the price of all manner of commodities must rise also in proportion. The merchant, who, before this scheme took place, sent to France for a ton of wine, which cost him there three hundred livres, or fifteen pounds Irish, could pay that sum with three hundred harp-shillings of the good silver; whereas, when the base-money was introduced, he must send, or pay one thousand two hundred at least of these new shillings, or sixty pounds; and, at a moderate profit of ten *per cent.* he might have sold his ton of wine, before the debasing of the coin, for sixteen pounds ten shillings, which, in base money with the same profit, he could not sell under sixty-six pounds. The case was the same with the manufacturer, the artificer, the farmer, whose goods must have risen in proportion, as what he received in payment, decreased in intrinsic value; and the difference between the old and the new coin being three-fourths, or seventy-five *per cent.* he must of consequence have raised his wares seventy-five *per cent.* So, a barrel of wheat, if sold before at six shillings, must then sell for twenty-four shillings: a yard of cloath, if worth twelve shillings must then be worth forty-eight shillings. However just this be; yet some there are, who would fain believe, that if they owe twenty shillings they discharge that debt, if they pay twenty shillings, although there be less silver in the species of coin they pay, than in that which they received: as if a person had borrowed from me twenty barrels of wheat at twenty stone each, should pretend to pay me, by returning me twenty barrels at sixteen stone each, if the barrel was by law reduced to that weight; whereas he should return me four hundred stones of wheat, otherwise I must certainly lose eighty stones, or two barrels of wheat by the bargain; I should hereby, no doubt, receive the same number of nominal barrels, but at the same time should really lose one fifth part of the wheat so lent. The case is the same as to money; if I lend twenty pound in good sterling silver, it is not enough that the same number of nominal pounds, which are but imaginary names, should be repaid me, I must receive the same quantity of sterling silver, that I have lent; for otherwise, if I have paid twenty pounds, or four hundred shillings in sterling money, and receive twenty pounds, or four hundred shillings in base money, worth three fourths less than sterling, it is evident that I lose three fourths of my debt, and

* Moryson, vol. ii. p. 270.

ELIZAB. receive but five pound in intrinsic value, instead of twenty pounds. And, if at
A. D. that time the merchant had complied, and parted with his sterling money; if he
1601. had brought it to the office, there to receive twenty-one shillings of the base money,
(in reality not worth above three shillings and four pence) for every twenty shillings
of sterling money, his stock, if twelve thousand pounds, must at once have been
reduced to three thousand pounds, nay, to two thousand pounds, for the goldsmiths
did not value these shillings at more than two pence each¹.

This leads me to another observation; the rate of land in this kingdom. The
land-lord, who during the debasing of the monies, under Henry VIII. Mary,
Edward VI. and Elizabeth, found that instead of one shilling of good silver, he
received but three pence an acre, that is, who instead of being paid twelve pence
per acre in sterling money, received a shilling of the mixed-money, worth but three
pence, and that he consequently lost nine pence per acre, or the three fourths of his
rent, when any of his leases expired during that time, in order to receive his former
rent, twelve pence sterling per acre, he must then have raised the price of his land
to four shillings the acre, of the then current money; which, when in the subsequent
reign, the sterling money was restored, and the mixed-money decried, proved a great
charge to the lessee, who thereby found himself obliged to pay four shillings sterling
for that acre of land for which he formerly paid but twelve pence sterling; an ad-
ditional rent of seventy-five per cent. I hope I shall be excused, for dwelling so long
on this article; I thought it incumbent on me, to take off the aspersions, so grossly
and unjustly cast on the merchants of that time, by those who made the most of
that scheme.

1° Elizabeth, there was coined of the base money three ounces fine	£.	s.	d.
and nine ounces allay, by Sir Edmund Peckham, &c. in weight,			
19828 lb. worth in sterling	15541	10	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
4° Elizabeth, there was struck, by the same, of the good money			
eleven ounces fine, in weight 2977 lb. which, at £.3 the pound			
weight, makes	8931	0	0
40° and 43° Elizabeth, by Sir Richard Martin, in weight			
89844 lb. 10 oz. 15 dwt. worth in sterling	70105	9	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
<hr/>			
Total in English money	£.94577	19	6

which, at the rate of sixteen pence Irish, for every English shilling,
comes to 118222 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

JAMES I. This prince, at his accession to the crown, finding the rebellion in Ireland intirely
A. D. suppressed by the late queen, issued a proclamation² for regulating the currency of
1602-3.

¹ Leake, p. 269.

² Appendix, No. 26.

her mixed money; and at the same time ordered, that a new kind of money, viz. JAMES I. Shillings and Six-pences, nine ounces fine, struck for Ireland, by virtue of two indentures^a, of the twentieth of August, in his first year, and of the twelfth of January, in his second year, should pass here, as the lawful and current coin of this kingdom; that the base Shilling, of the late queen, should pass for four pence, her Six-penny pieces, for two pence; and that her Pennies and Half-pennies of copper, should still pass for the same value.

A. D.
1603.

The Shillings of this coinage, have the king's bust in armour, his head crowned, looking to the left, with this inscription, IACOBVS. D. G. ANG. SCO. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. reverse the harp crowned, and EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI. a bell, mint-mark. The Sixpenny piece is like the Shilling, except the legend on the reverse, which is, TVEATVR. VNITA. DEVS. See Plate VI. Numb. 124 and 125.

The latter end of this year, this prince having changed his title of king of England and Scotland, into that of king of Great-Britain, thought proper to alter likewise, the inscription on his English and Irish coins, as appears by a proclamation¹, dated the twentieth of October, 1604, whereby he orders, "that the stile, James " king of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, shall be from henceforth used in all " inscriptions upon his current monies and coynes of gold and silver hereafter to be " mynted.

1604.

I must beg leave to give here the preamble of another proclamation^k of his, published on that subject in London the sixteenth of November following. "Although " it be most certayn, that nothing is more appropriate to sovereign dignities of " princes, than the ordering of their monies, and settling them at such prices and valuations as they shall think fit upon necessary causes; yet have we always bene of " opinion, that *just princes* should not use that liberty of their power, in *abusing* " or *enhansing* the price of monies *without all respect to the common benefit of* " *their subjects*; in which consideration it is evident to all men, that since our " entrie into this realme we have bene so far from changing the auncient and honorable standard of the starling money of this our realme of England, as we " have on the contrary restored to our realme of Ireland monies of pure silver, " in lieu of the base coyne, with which the necessity of the tymes, by accidend " of warres, constrayned our sister the late queene of happy memory to pay " the armies."

A third proclamation^l was published here, the twenty-second of January, ordering that the mixed monies should thenceforward pass at the fourth part of their former value, that is the Shilling for three pence, and the Six-penny piece for three half-pence. And as the king's title was altered on his English coins, so was it likewise on his Irish. The Shillings and Six-penny pieces, struck in the tower of London,

1605.

^a Mint-books, Tower, Lond.

^k Rymer, vol. xvi. p. 605.

^l Roll offic. Dub. 16 Jac. I. pars 5 dorso.

^l Appendix, No. 27.

JAMES I and sent over this year, have on one side his head, like the former, with this inscription, **IACOBVS. D. G. MAG. BRIT. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.** reverse, the harp crowned and this legend, **HENRICVS. ROSAS. REGNA. IACOBVS.** *Henry united the roses, and James the kingdoms*; alluding to the union of the red and white roses, the houses of Lancaster and York, in the person of Henry VII. his great-grand-father, and to the union of the two crowns of England and Scotland under one prince, by his accession to the former. The Six-pences are like the Shillings, but have on the reverse, **TVEATVR. VNITA. DEVS.** mint-marks, a rose, a martlet. See Plate VI. Numb. 126 and 127.

According to Malynes^a, eighty-two of these and the former shillings went to the pound, and therefore weighed seventy grains one fourth, and the six-pences thirty-five grains one eighth; yet some of the best preserved that I have, though worn and clipped, weigh from sixty-two grains to seventy grains and a half, and the Six penny pieces, from thirty grains and a half to thirty-three grains and a half.

1607. By a proclamation^a of the nineteenth of May, it was ordered that the English Shillings should pass in this kingdom for sixteen pence; and by another^a, of the
1612. eighteenth of May 1612, all goldsmiths and others were prohibited under severe penalties,
1613. melting any of the gold or silver coins current in this kingdom. The following year this prince ordered farthings^a to be made of copper, and to pass equally current in England and Ireland. They have on one side two scepters in saltire through a crown, with this epigraph, **IACO. D. G. MAG. BRI.** (some have **BRIT.**) reverse, the harp crowned, and **FRA. ET. HIB. REX.** they are very thin and not broader than one of the present English silver groats. See Plate VI. Numb. 128.

As at this time, the English money was current in this kingdom at one third part more, than it was in England^a, the Twenty-shilling piece laureat of that king passed here for twenty-six shillings and eight pence, and the other parts in proportion, the English Crown-piece of five shillings passed for six shillings and eight pence; the English Shilling for sixteen pence, and the other parts proportionably. The exchange^a between Dublin and London, was at twenty shillings Irish, for fifteen shillings English, with six or eight pence in every pound, payable in London; and by a patent of Charles I. it appears that there was at this time an office and master of the exchange of monies, between this kingdom and England. In the first ten years of this reign^a, there was coined in Irish sterling money, one hundred sixty-six thousand two hundred and seventy-three pounds, eleven shillings.

CHARL. I. King Charles I. soon after his accession, granted a patent^a to Frances, duchess
A. D. dowager of Richmond and Lennox, and to Sir Francis Crane, knight, for the term
1625.

^a Lex mercatoria, p. 305.

^a Appendix, No. 29.

^a Ibid, No. 30.

^a Lex mercatoria, p. 278.

^a Ibid, 360.

^a Ibid.

^a Mint-books, Tower, Lond.

^a Appendix, No. 31.

of seventeen years, empowering them to strike copper farthings, and by proclamation^a ordered that they should equally pass in England and Ireland. They are very small and thin, and have on one side two scepters in saltire through a crown, and this inscription, CAROLVS. D. G. MAG. BRI. reverse, the crowned harp, and FRAN. ET. HIB. REX. They weigh about six grains, and have a wool-pack, a bell, or a flower-de-luce, mint-marks. See Plate VI. No. 129.

CHARL. I.
A. D.
1625.

By a patent and indenture of the twenty-second of August, 1627^a, it appears, that Henry earl of Holland was made keeper of the exchanges between Ireland and England, for the term of thirty-one years, and that he was thereby obliged to exchange any sums of money brought to his office, to be remitted to and from England and Ireland, at a reasonable premium, not exceeding six pence in every twenty shillings. And in the year 1632, Sir Thomas Aylesbury, knight, was by the king's patent^a appointed sole agent for making, selling and vending, all money scales and weights, through England and Ireland.

1627.

1632.

As too large quantities of the above mentioned copper farthings were probably sent over from England by the patentees, or their agents, the lord deputy Wentworth and council found it necessary to stop such an evil, and to issue a proclamation^a the sixteenth of September, 1634, whereby it was ordered, that no person should be forced to take farthing-tokens, and that none should pay above two pence in farthings, in any one payment. In December following, the parliament then sitting, took into consideration a much greater mischief; the transportation of foreign gold and silver out of this kingdom, to France, Spain, and the Low-countries, whereby this country was drained of its current species; and after many conferences^a between the lords and commons, they came to a resolution to petition the king for the re-establishment of a mint in Dublin. The lord deputy having accordingly transmitted their petition^a, his majesty was pleased to grant their request^b, and to order "an indenture^c to be drawn for that service, buildings to be erected, and such other preparations to be made, as might tend to the perfecting of that business." It appears from a letter of the lords of the council in England, to the lord deputy and council here^d, that some steps had been taken to forward this scheme, and that draughts of an indenture, and other papers relating to it, had been delivered to lord Wentworth. It was thereby agreed that, "gold and silver money should be struck here, of the same standard of those of England, for weight and allay, and of such species, and with such impressions and stamps, as his majesty should direct, or as the lord deputy and council should think fit, so as they be of an impression clearly distinguishable from the monies of England:"^e but through the calamities of the times, this beneficial project came to nothing; and instead of it, the king granted another patent^a to Henry lord Maltravers, and Sir Francis Crane and appointed them "to cause farthing-tokens, to be made of brass with such a dis-

1634.

1635.

^a Appendix, No. 32. ^b Ibid. No. 37.

^c Ibid. No. 40.

^e Ibid. No. 43, 44.

^d Ibid. No. 35, 36. ^e Ibid. No. 38.

^f Ibid. No. 41.

^g Ibid. No. 34.

^h Ibid. No. 33. ⁱ Ibid. No. 39.

^j Ibid. No. 42.

CHAP. I. tinction, as would readily make them known from all others." These had the crown and scepters like the former, with this epigraphe CAROLV. D. G. MA. BRI. and on the reverse, a rose crowned, instead of the harp, with a piece of brass in the middle, and FRA. ET. HI. REX. mint marks, a crown, a cross, or a mullet. They weighed eighteen grains, and passed equally in both kingdoms^f.

A. D.
1638.

1637. By a proclamation* of the sixth of April this year, it was ordered, that the title or name of Irish money or harps, should be abolished, and that all accounts, receipts and payments, should be reduced into sterling, and made in English money. "All accounts in the exchequer," says lord Strafford^g, "and all payments upon contracts betwixt man and man are now reduced into sterling money, so as hereafter, we shall not need for distinction to add Irish or sterling; for all hereafter is to be understood after the English accompts, twenty shillings to the pound." From the words of the proclamation, that all accounts, receipts and payments, should be reduced into sterling, some have been of opinion that all rents due or payable to the crown before, ought to have been paid since that time, at the rate of one English shilling, instead of twelve pence Irish; but, that no such thing was intended, I humbly presume, will appear clearly from the above quotation out of lord Strafford's letters; and, that no more was thereby meant, than to take off and avoid the confusion and trouble, which the distinction between Irish and sterling money, must have before that time, occasioned in the accounts of the exchequer, and other public and private transactions.

1642. After the most execrable massacre of 1641, the lords justices and council, in order to raise a fund, immediately wanted, to maintain an army to suppress the rebels, issued a proclamation^h, the fourteenth of January, 1642, to encourage his majesty's loyal subjects to bring in their plate for the service of the government, which was cheerfully complied with, and the same hastily coined into several kinds of species of different shapes. One kind has only the weight stampd on them, as nineteen penny-weight eight grains—nine penny-weight eight grains—three penny-weight twenty grains—one penny-weight six grains. Another sort, instead of the weight, has only the value, V. for five shillings. See Plate VI. Numb. 130, 131, 132, 133.

1643. The next year, pursuant to the king's letter, dated at Oxford the twenty-fifth of May, the lords justices issued a second proclamationⁱ, the eighth of July following; for further encouragement to the loyal subjects to bring in their plate to Sir John Veale, knight, Peter Vanderhoven and Gilbert Tongues, goldsmiths, authorised, by commission under the great seal of this kingdom, to receive and coin the same into pieces of Five-shillings, Half-crowns, Shillings, Six-penny pieces, four penny pieces, three-penny pieces, two-penny pieces, and Pennies; to be of the same weight and alloy with the money then current in England, and to be each of them stamped

^f Leake, p. 332. * Appendix, No. 45.

^g Strafford's letters, vol. ii. p. 90, 103.

^h Appendix, No. 46.

ⁱ Ibid. No. 47.

on one side, with the letters *C. R.* for *Carolus Rex*, and a crown over them, and on CHARL. I. the other side the value of each of the said pieces, without any inscription. See A. D. Plate VI. Numb. 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140. 1648.

The money struck by virtue of the said commission, was, by this proclamation, declared to be the current coin of this kingdom, and ordered to pass and be taken as such. The Crown-piece weighs seventeen penny-weight fifteen grains, the Half-crown, eight penny-weight nineteen grains, the Shilling, three penny-weight thirteen grains, the Six-pence, forty-three grains and a half, the Groat, twenty-two grains, the Three-pence, eighteen grains, the Two-pence, ten grains. I have not the Penny, but I suppose it was like the rest, and marked *1^d* and its weight to have been about five or six grains. About one hundred and twenty thousand pounds worth of plate was coined at this time†.

It appears by the king's letter, above-mentioned, that his majesty still designed to restore the royal mint in Dublin, but that it was prevented by the troubles in England.

There was another sort of money coined in this kingdom without inscription, having on one side a plain cross, and on the other the value ; for five shillings, and perhaps smaller pieces. This is supposed to have been struck during the siege of Dublin, in 1641^h: but from the cross imprinted on it, I should rather think that it was coined in imitation of, and opposition to the last mentioned, and much about the same time, by the chiefs of the rebels, who pretended to act under the king's authority; (as appears by several of their petitions to the king, in Carte's life of the duke of Ormond* ; for amongst other acts of their general assembly at Kilkenny in 1642, we find one¹ whereby it was ordered, " That a seal should be made for the " kingdom; that every person whatsoever, talking or discoursing, in writing or " otherwise of the enemies, shall not call them by the name or names of English or " protestants, but shall call them by the name of puritanical or malignant-party". " That coin and plate shall be raised and established in this kingdom, according to " the rates and values hereafter-mentioned, and that there shall be forthwith coined " the sum of four thousand pounds, to pass current in this kingdom, according to " a proclamation or act published by direction of this assembly in the city of Kil- " kenny, and not otherwise; that the right honourable the earl of Castlehaven, and " such others as his lordship shall call to his assistance, shall present unto the supreme " council of this kingdom an institution and order of knighthood, concerning the " honour of St. Patrick, and the glory of this kingdom." It seems therefore more probable that this coin was struck by the rebels, by virtue of this act of their assembly; as were, probably, the copper pieces, called St. Patrick's Half-pence and Farthings, which I likewise ascribe to them, and suppose to have been struck about

† Chronol. of the world, Dub. 1743, p. 62.

^h Irish hist. lib. p. 170.

¹ Appendix, No. 48.

* Duke of Ormonde's letters, p. 47, 99, 110, and life of Ormond, vol. i. p. 380.

= Carte's letters of Ormonde, p. 99, 110, 111.

CHARL. I. this time: for they too well allude to some passages in this act, to doubt of their
A. D. having been coined upon this occasion, in honour of St. Patrick and of their new
1643. order of knighthood. These Half-pennies have on one side, the figure of a king crowned, with a radiant crown, kneeling and playing on the harp, and over the harp the imperial crown of England of a different metal from that of the coin, that is brass upon copper, or copper upon brass, with this inscription, *FLOREAT REX.* reverse, the figure of St. Patrick mitred, and standing with a crosier in his right hand, and a leaf of trefoil in his left, which he holds out to the people about him, and on his left side the arms of the city of Dublin, three castles 2. 1. with this legend *ECCE GREX.* Mr. Leake has mistaken these three castles for six *fers de moline*, or *queues d'ermine*s, four and two. The farthing has likewise on one side a king crowned and playing on the harp, a crown of copper or brass over it and round, *FLOREAT REX.* reverse, St. Patrick mitred, holding in his left hand a double or metropolitan cross, a church behind him, and stretching out his right hand over a parcel of serpents and other venomous creatures as if driving them out of the church, and alluding to the protestants, called in the before-mentioned act the puritanical,—the malignant party; inscription, *QVIESCAT PLEBS.* The Half-pence or larger sort have some of them a star, mint-mark, and others have none: they weigh from five penny-weight ten grains to five penny-weight fifteen grains. The smaller sort, or Farthings, have no mint-mark, and weigh from three penny-weight eighteen grains to four penny-weight ten grains, and both have a graining round. See Plate VII. Numb. 141 and 142.

There are still preserved, by the curious, some few silver pieces, with the same impressions and inscriptions of these copper pieces: it is thought that they were struck as medals, but for my part I think they were struck upon the same occasion, and intended by the Kilkenny-assembly to pass for shillings.

In the years 1645 and 1646, another kind of money was struck at Cork, viz. Shillings and Six-penny pieces of silver. These have on one side the word *CORK* and under it the year 1645, or 1646, and on the other side the value *xii^d* and *vi^d*. See Plate VII. Numb. 143. The shilling weighs seventy-five and one fourth grains, and the Six-pence thirty-seven grains three fourths.

O. CROM- Before the restauration of King Charles II. and during the common-wealth and
WEL. Cromwell's government, no money was coined for the particular use of Ireland;
A. D. but divers persons in Dublin and other places in this kingdom, in order to supply
1648-9. the great scarcity of small change, coined copper tokens, with their names and places of abode stamped on them, whereby they obliged themselves to make them good. To this time may be ascribed those of Richard Greenwood, of High-street, Dublin; Thomas Flood, of ditto, merchant; Thomas Gould, of ditto, merchant; John Warren, of ditto, chandler; Nicolas Delone, of Lazy-hill, Dublin; Desminier, of Bridge-street, Dublin; and of William Keough, of Kilkenny, goldsmith; besides, no doubt, many others which I have not. All these tokens are made of brass, or copper, not broader, but thinner than our present farthings, and like so many

promissory notes passed for one penny each, in the neighbourhood, and amongst the customers of those who issued them, whose names, together with the value ^{1^p} and their coat of arms, sign, or cypher, are imprinted on their respective pieces: which expedient has often been put in practice in the subsequent reigns.

This year several persons, in London, sent over great quantities of counterfeit and clipped English money and base Peru-pieces, which by their agents they imposed on the merchants here; for which villainy some of the guilty were taken and executed. This occasioned a proclamation which was issued in October or November, 1652, whereby it was ordered, that the clipped money should not be given or taken in payment, but by weight, at the rate of five shillings the ounce, and the base Peru-pieces, for their intrinsic value only². The most part of this counterfeit money, sent from London, from time to time, to Dublin, Waterford, and other places of Ireland, were Half-crowns, which were so bad that the one half of them were not worth two pence in silver³; and the Peru-pieces, which were then current here for four shillings and six pence, were not worth above two shillings and four pence. And by an exact assay made⁴, it appeared that six hundred and thirty-five pounds worth of these pieces at the current price of four shillings and six pence, were not intrinsically worth above four hundred and one pound in sterling money; so that two hundred and thirty-four pounds were lost in that small parcel. This occasioned several representations from the council here. To the council of State, the committee of Irish-affairs, secretary Thurloe, and to the lord protector, in England, to shew them the necessity of erecting a mint here, as the only expedient left to retrieve the affairs and the trade of Ireland⁵; but though this request was often repeated until the latter end of 1656, yet I do not find that it was granted.

This prince after his restauration, and in the twelfth year of his reign, granted a patent⁶ to Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, for the term of twenty-one years, for coining copper farthings, in such place as he should judge most convenient, and in such a quantity as he could conveniently issue among his majesty's subjects of this kingdom. The said farthing tokens to be made of copper by engines, to weigh twenty grains or more each at the discretion of the said Armstrong, and to have on one side two scepters crossing a diadem, and on the other side, a harp crowned with the king's stile, *Carolus secundus magnæ Britanniae, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex*, with a privy mark, from time to time. Any other farthings were by this patent prohibited to be used through Ireland under pain of forfeiture of the coin and engines, and all other usual penalties; the said Armstrong to pay yearly to the king for this privilege sixteen pounds thirteen shillings and four pence. These farthings have one side two scepters in a saltire through a crown, and this inscription, CAROLVS. II. D. G. M. B. reverse, the crowned harp, and FRA. ET. HIB. REX. and some of them weigh twenty-eight grains, instead of twenty: but as Sir Thomas " could never be ad-

¹ Appendix, No. 49.

² Ibid. No. 51.

³ Ibid. No. 50.

⁴ Ibid. No. 49, 50, 51, 52.

⁵ Ibid. No. 53.

CHAR. II. "mitted to make use of this grant, nor obtayne allowance from the chiefe governor
A. D. " of Ireland to issue the said farthing-tokens,"* he could not proceed, and there-
1660. fore we may well suppose that very few were coined and sent abroad.

His majesty having also taken into consideration the hardships, under which his subjects of Ireland labored for want of good silver species, and by the great quantity of base money imported into this kingdom, was pleased by his letter of the thirtieth of October, to order the lords justices and council of Ireland to issue a proclamation for raising the value of gold and silver coins; and accordingly, the twenty-ninth of January following, a proclamation came out for ascertaining the value of, and declaring the several gold and silver coins therein mentioned, to be the current coin of this kingdom,* at the rates following, viz.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	The golden Rider weighing	6	12	1	2	6
	The half golden Rider,	3	6	0	11	3
	The Spanish, or French quadruple Pistole	17	8	3	4	0
	The Spanish, or French double Pistole	8	16	1	12	0
	The Spanish, or French Pistole	4	8	0	16	0
	The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	4	0	8	0
	The Double Ducat of gold	4	12	0	18	0
	The Single Ducat	2	6	0	9	0
	The Spanish Suffrain	7	2	1	8	0
	The Spanish Half-Suffrain	3	12	0	14	0
Silver	The Mexico, or Sevil piece of eight, the Rix-dollar, } or Cross-dollar	17	0	0	4	9
	The Halves, ditto	8	12	0	2	4½
	The Quarters, ditto	4	6	0	1	2¼
	The Half-quarters, ditto	2	3	0	0	7¼
	The Portugal-Royal	14	0	0	3	8
	The Half, ditto	7	0	0	1	10
	The Quarter, ditto	3	12	0	0	11
	The Duccatoon	20	16	0	5	9
	The Half, ditto	10	8	0	2	10½
	The Quarter, ditto	5	4	0	1	5¼
	The old Peru-piece, and French-Lewis	17	0	0	4	6
	The Halves, ditto	8	12	0	2	3
	The Quarters, ditto	4	6	0	1	1½
	The Half-Quarters, ditto	2	3	0	0	6¼

* Appendix, No. 65.

* Ibid. No. 54.

Two pence to be allowed for each grain deficient in the weight of the gold, and CHAR.II.
three pence for every penny-weight wanting in the silver. And, A. D.
1660.

Whereas several persons, in all cities, corporate and market towns, had taken the liberty to make some kind of brass or copper tokens with such stamps as they thought proper, and uttered them for one penny each piece, to the great prejudice of the subject, for that for the value of every twenty pence that the brass stood them in, there was raised about twenty shillings of pure silver; the lords justices and council did therefore think proper to issue two proclamations this year; the first on the seventeenth of August⁷ forbidding any person, or persons whatsoever, to make, or cause to be made, any brass or copper money or tokens, without special licence from his majesty, under pain of such penalties and punishments, as by the laws of this kingdom could be justly inflicted. But as no notice was therein taken of the patent granted to Sir Thomas Armstrong, who might have suffered considerably, had his farthings been decried with the rest, a second proclamation⁸ came out the thirteenth of September following forbidding any person to make any copper or brass money, or tokens, without special license from the king, "which Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, hath by letters patents under the great seal of England." Here the Government acknowledges that Sir Thomas had the king's patent, and in consequence thereof makes a proviso for him in this proclamation, and yet we find that the chief governor (I suppose the duke of Ormond, who was lord-lieutenant in 1662) would not allow this patent, nor let him utter his farthings. 1661.

The following year, 1662, the king granted another patent⁹, bearing date the twenty-eighth of April, to Sir Thomas Viner, baronet, Robert Viner and Daniel Bellingham of Dublin, goldsmiths, for the term of twenty-one years, for coining silver money from the Half-penny to the four-penny piece, of eleven ounces two penny-weight fine and eighteen penny-weight allay, paying to his majesty twelve pence out of every pound troy of the silver so coined. According to the patent these coins were to bear the following stamps, viz. the Half-penny piece, a crown on one side, and on the other a harp; the penny-piece, on one side the king's head with the figure I, and on the other side a harp; the Two-penny piece, on one side the king's head with the figure II, and on the reverse, a harp crowned; the Three-penny piece, the king's head crowned, with the figure III, and his majesty's title, *Carolus II, &c.* on one side, and on the other a crowned harp with this legend, *Oblectat et Reparat*; and the Groat or four-penny piece, the king's head with his title and the figure IIII on one side, and on the reverse the harp crowned, with the same motto *Oblectat et Reparat*. But as I have not met with any of these coins, or any person that ever saw them or heard of them, I presume that as the patentees were to bear the whole expence of the coinage, and to pay all the officers of the mint, besides what they were to pay 1662.

⁷ Appendix, No. 55.

⁸ Ibid. No. 56.

⁹ Ibid. No. 57.

CHAR. II. to the king, they found it would not turn to their advantage, and consequently
A. D. dropped the undertaking.
1662.

As the proclamation published the twenty-ninth of January, 1660, did not expressly mention the Mexico plate pieces, commonly called Pillar-pieces, and for this reason many did scruple and refuse to take them in payment according to the rate and value of the Mexico, or Sevil-pieces of eight, though they were of equal fineness and of greater weight; the lord lieutenant, (duke of Ormond) and council, did therefore, issue a proclamation^b, the nineteenth of September, this year, whereby it was ordered, that the said Pillar-pieces, weighing seventy penny-weight, should pass and be received in payment for four shillings and nine pence each, and the lesser pieces in proportion, with the like allowance of three pence for every penny-weight deficient in their respective weight.

1672. About this time small change must have been very scarce, since we find that private persons and towns were obliged to coin copper tokens. I have of this year the Penny-piece struck at Kinsale, having on one side a port-cullis with the figure 1st, and round it KINSALE. 1672, and on the other the arms of the town. See Plate VII. Numb. 145. I have also the Half-penny of Michael Wilson, having on one side the scutcheon of his arms, with this inscription, MIC. WILSON. OF. DUBLIN. reverse, St. George, killing the Dragon, and HIS HALF-PENY. 1672.

1673. Exporting the current money of this kingdom, notwithstanding, and contrary to the laws and statutes in force in the same, was carried to such a pitch, and became so prejudicial to the subject, that the lord lieutenant (earl of Essex) and council, in order to put a stop to this growing evil, issued a proclamation^c, the twenty-eighth of July this year, strictly commanding that all and every the laws, statutes and ordinances, heretofore made, for keeping the coin of the kingdom within the same, should be henceforth firmly and inviolably kept, and that no person whatsoever should presume to export, carry or send away any money current within this kingdom, nor any plate, bullion, gold or silver wrought or unwrought, without licence from the lord lieutenant and council, except only so much as shall be necessary for their absolute and necessary expences, which they shall be obliged to discover to his majesty's searchers, under pain of incurring the forfeitures in and by the said laws and statutes limited and appointed^d, being the forfeiture of the value of the money, plate, or bullion, so carried, or intended to be carried out of this kingdom, whereof the discoverer is by the said statutes to have one fourth part; all his majesty's searchers and other officers, being hereby strictly commanded to be careful and vigilant about the full execution of all and singular the said laws and statutes.

And whereas, divers persons, and many cities and towns, did still continue their former practice of making and uttering copper and brass tokens, another proclamation^e was issued by the said lord lieutenant and council, the seventeenth of October

^b Appendix, No. 58.

^c Ibid No. 59.

^d 2 Hen. VI.—12 and 43 Eliz. which see before.

^e Stat. 9 Edw. III.—5 Rich. II.—2 Hen. IV.—

^f Appendix, No. 60.

following, forbidding any person whatsoever to make or stamp any brass, copper, or other tokens, without licence from his majesty.

Among the manuscript letters of the earl of Essex, then lord lieutenant, I find one from his excellency to the lord Ranelagh¹, of the tenth of February 1674-5, whereby it appears that the government was then considering of some means for making good and lawful farthings, and that a proposal for that purpose had been offered to him, which, with this letter, he transmitted to the said lord, to be laid before the king, for his majesty's approbation; but although this proposal was thought here very reasonable and advantageous for the subject, who labored under many difficulties for want of small change², yet I do not find that it was accepted.

In the same manuscript copy-book, is another letter of his excellency to Mr. secretary Coventry, of the twentieth of the same month³, wherein he incloses a proclamation for the king's approbation, to raise the value of the Portugal Crusadoes from three shillings and eight pence to three shillings and ten pence each, weighing fourteen penny-weight, and the Half-crusadoe, weighing seven penny-weight at one shilling and eleven pence.

Notwithstanding the late proclamation against exporting of gold and silver out of the kingdom, it was still found necessary to put a stop to this pernicious practice; another proclamation⁴ was therefore published by the lords justices and council the twenty-sixth of July this year, forbidding all persons whatsoever to export, or carry out of the kingdom, any gold, or silver money, plate or bullion, and charging all his majesty's officers to put the laws in execution against the offenders.

Divers merchants, strangers and others, having brought into this kingdom large quantities of a certain Dutch coin, then called, the New-lyon-dollars, stamped with a lyon rampant on one side, and a man with an escutcheon on the other side, with this motto, *Confidens Domino non movetur*, and the year 1674. 1675. 1676. which, by themselves or their agents, they imposed on the subject at the rate of four shillings and nine pence each, though not really and intrinsically worth more than three shillings and four pence farthing, being found upon trial to be two ounces five penny-weight worse than the standard of England; a proclamation was issued⁵ the ninth of April this year, by the lord lieutenant (Essex) and council declaring that no officers of his majesty's revenue, nor any person of what quality or condition soever were by any law in force in this kingdom, required or inforced to take or receive in payment any of the aforesaid pieces.

This year, a very fair copper half-penny was struck in Dublin, of the bigness of

¹ Appendix, No. 61.

² "The country suffers much under the want of small money legally authorised, therefore I wish the proposal concerning it, which I sent to your lordship, were considered and or-

ders given therein." Earl of Essex's manuscript letter to lord Ranelagh, of the tenth of March, 1674-5.

³ Appendix, No. 62.

⁴ Ibid. No. 63.

⁵ Ibid. No. 64.

CHAR. II.
A. D.
1673.
1675.

1677.

CHAR. II. our present half-penny, it has on one side the arms of this city with the date 1679 A. D. over it, and this inscription, ✠ THE DVBLIN HALF PENNIE. reverse, the harp crowned, and LONG LIVE THE KING. See Plate VIII. Numb. 175.

1680. Upon application and a representation made to the king, by Sir William Armstrong, knight, that neither his father, nor himself, were ever admitted to make use of the patent heretofore granted to his late father, nor obtain allowance from the chief governor of Ireland, to issue his farthings, as the king's coin amongst his majesty's subjects of that kingdom; and that having laid out considerable sums of money for copper, for the working thereof into farthings, and other incidental charges, they had sustained great loss and damage. His majesty was therefore pleased to grant new letters patent¹, bearing date the eighteenth of May, to the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, and colonel George Legg, for the making copper half-pence, for the use of this kingdom, during the term of twenty-one years, they paying yearly to the crown sixteen pound thirteen shillings and four pence. The said half-pence, to be made by engines, and to weigh one hundred and ten grains troy. In consequence of this, the lord lieutenant (duke of Ormond) and council issued a proclamation², the nineteenth of July following, declaring the copper half-pence made by Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel George Legg, by virtue of the said patent, to be the lawful and current coin of this kingdom, and forbidding any person whatsoever to make or counterfeit the said copper half-pence, or to import any counterfeit; or to make any kind of brass or copper tokens, half-pence or farthings, or to import the same, under pain of such penalties and punishments, as by the laws and statutes in this kingdom, and by his majesty's prerogative royal, might be inflicted upon such persons, for their contempt and breach of his majesty's royal commands.

This proclamation, however, provided that none should be enforced to receive more than five shillings of the said half-pence in any one payment of one hundred pounds, and so proportionably in all greater or lesser sums; and that in case any of his majesty's subjects should happen to be surcharged in the course of their trade with more of the said half-pence, than they could utter, the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel Legg, their deputies and agents, were hereby required to pay at any time, the sum of twenty shillings in current gold or silver, for every twenty-one shillings of said copper half-pence, that should be brought to them.

These half-pennies have on one side the king's head laureat, looking to the left, with this inscription, CAROLVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. reverse, a harp crowned between the dates of the years 16—80. 16—81. 16—82. 16—83. 16—84. and MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. See Plate VII. No. 144. This was certainly the best and handsomest copper money yet struck in, or for Ireland. Such as were coined during the first three years, weigh from one hundred and eighteen to one hundred and nineteen

¹ Appendix, No. 65.

² Ibid. No. 66.

grains, and those of the two last years, about one hundred and nine to one hundred and ten grains.

Another proclamation^a was issued the sixth of June this year, by the lord deputy (earl of Arran) and council, for ascertaining the value of foreign gold and silver coins current in this kingdom, at the rates following, *viz.*

CHAR. II.
A. D.
1680.
1683.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	The golden Rider, weighing	6	12	1	2	6
	The Half golden Rider	3	6	0	11	3
	The Spanish, or French Quadruple-pistole	17	4	3	10	0
	The Spanish, or French Double-pistole	8	14	1	15	0
	The Spanish, or French Single-pistole	4	7	0	17	6
	The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	3½	0	8	9
	The Double-ducat	4	12	0	18	0
	The Single-Ducat	2	6	0	9	0
	The Spanish Suffrance	7	2	1	8	6
	The Spanish Half-suffrance	3	13	0	14	3
Silver	The Ducatoon	20	16	0	6	0
	The Half-ducaton	10	8	0	3	0
	The Quarter-ducaton	5	4	0	1	6
	The Mexico, Sevil, or Pillar-piece of eight, the Rix-dollar, Cross-dollar, and French-lewis, }	17	0	0	4	9
	The Halves ditto	8	12	0	2	4½
	The Quarters ditto	4	6	0	1	2¼
	The Half-quarters ditto	2	3	0	0	7⅛
	The Twelfth of the French-lewis	1	12	0	0	4¾
	The old Peru-piece of eight	17	0	0	4	6
	The Half ditto	8	12	0	2	3
	The Quarter ditto	4	6	0	1	1½
	The Half-quarter ditto	2	3	0	0	6¾
	The Portugal-royal	14	0	0	3	8
	The Half ditto	7	0	0	1	10
	The Quarter ditto	3	12	0	0	11

Two pence to be allowed for each grain deficient in the weight of the gold, and three pence for each penny-weight wanted of the silver, and so proportionably for greater and lesser want of weight, in each of the said pieces of gold or silver respectively.

^a Appendix, No. 67.

JAMES II. We have observed in the preceding article, that the late king had granted a patent, bearing date the eighteenth of May, 1680, to Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, and colonel Legg, for coining copper half-pence. The seventeenth of June following, they by deed of assignment^a transferred it to Sir John Knox, of Dublin, alderman, who this year, petitioned King James for a new patent, upon his surrendering the old. Whereupon his majesty was pleased to direct his warrant^a to the then lords justices, bearing date the twenty-third of October, 1685, authorizing them to accept of the said surrender from, and to cause new letters patents to be made to the said Sir John Knox, knight, for the making of copper half-pence for the use of this kingdom. Accordingly a new grant was made under the great-seal of Ireland^a to the said Sir John Knox, knight, then lord mayor of Dublin, for the remainder of the time yet unexpired of the former grant, and under the same restrictions and limitations. These half-pennies have on one side the king's head laureat, looking to the right with this inscription, IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. reverse, the crowned harp between the dates 16—85. 16—86. 16—87. 16—88. and MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. See Plate VII. Numb. 146.

1685.

1687.

The sixteenth of January this year a proclamation^a was issued by the lord deputy (earl of Tirconnel) and council, reciting the proclamation published in 1683, by the earl of Arran, late lord deputy, and declaring that all the foreign gold and silver coins therein mentioned should pass within this kingdom, according to the weights and rates therein specified.

King James arrived in Dublin from France on the twenty-fourth of March, 1688-9, and the next day published a proclamation^a for raising the value of English and foreign gold and silver coins, and ordered, that they should pass current in Ireland, at the following rates, viz.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	The golden Rider	6	12	1	4	0
	The Half golden Rider	3	6	0	12	0
	The French and Spanish Quadruple-pistole	17	4	3	16	0
	The Spanish, and French Double-pistole	8	14	1	18	0
	The Spanish, and French pistole	4	8	0	19	0
	The Spanish, and French Half-pistole	2	4	0	9	6
	The Double-ducat	4	12	1	0	0
	The Single-ducat	2	6	0	10	0
	The Spanish Suffrance	7	2	1	11	0
	The Spanish Half-suffrance	3	13	0	15	6
	The Guinea	0	0	1	4	0
	The Half-guinea	0	0	0	12	0

^a Appendix, No. 68.

^a Ibid. No. 69.

^a Ibid. No. 70.

^a Ibid. No. 71.

^a Ibid. No. 72.

		Weight.		Value.			JAMES II. A. D. 1689.
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.	
Silver	The Ducatoon	20	16	0	6	3	
	The Half-ducaton	10	8	0	3	1½	
	The Quarter-ducaton	5	4	0	1	7	
	The Mexico, Sevil, or Pillar-piece of eight, the Rix- dollar, Cross-dollar, and French-lewis,	17	0	0	5	0	
	The Halves ditto	8	12	0	2	6	
	The Quarters ditto	4	6	0	1	3	
	The Half-quarters ditto	2	3	0	0	7½	
	The Twelfth part of the French-lewis	1	12	0	0	5	
	The old Peru-piece of eight	17	0	0	4	9	
	The Half ditto	8	12	0	2	4½	
	The Quarter ditto	4	6	0	1	2¼	
	The Half-quarter ditto	2	3	0	0	7	
	The Portugal-royal	14	0	0	3	10	
	The Half ditto	7	0	0	1	11	
	The Quarter ditto	3	12	0	1	0	
	The English Crown	0	0	0	5	5	
	The English Half-crown	0	0	0	2	8½	
	The English Shilling	0	0	0	1	1	
	The English Six-pence	0	0	0	0	6½	

Two pence to be allowed for every grain deficient in the weight in any of the gold pieces, and three pence for each penny-weight wanted in the silver, and so proportionably for greater or lesser want of weight in the several pieces herein mentioned. This is the first proclamation, where I find mention made of the currency of English money in this kingdom since the restauration: as the shilling is hereby raised to one shilling and one penny, we must suppose that it was before current for twelve pence, the Half-crown at two shillings and six pence, the Crown at five shillings, and the Guinea at twenty shillings, and consequently that the exchange between England and Ireland was then at par in the strictest sense of the word. Gold and silver must have been very plentiful here in the latter end of the preceding reign, which was probably owing to its currency being raised in 1683. But now the scene changes, on the prospect of a civil war; the protestant merchant, the monied man, secures his effects and flies to England. Without money, how could king James maintain his army? Its value therefore must be raised, and as Guineas are less cumbersome and of an easier carriage than Crowns, or any other silver coins, he raises the value of English gold twenty *per cent.* and the English silver eight one third *per cent.* only, and other foreign gold and silver species in proportion; that what little money was left in the kingdom, and the few thousand livres he had borrowed from the French king, might go a greater way; wherefore, as the small French pieces of three sous,

JAMES II. though not worth above one penny three fifths sterling, were a very convenient coin to pay a soldier with, they were by proclamation¹, of the fourth of May following, made current, and ordered to pass for three pence half-penny each.

A. D.
1689.

But after all, when it was found that this scheme did not bring in money fast enough to answer his courtiers demands, or supply the necessities of the state, this prince, led and advised by those about him, who sought their own more than their master's interest, laid aside the patent by him granted but four years before to Sir John Knox, and then in the hands of colonel Roger Moore, and having given an order² for seizing on that gentleman's engines and tools for coining, set up mints of his own, one at Limerick, in the deanry-house, and the other in Dublin, in Capel-street; which last consisted of two presses, one called the James-press, and the other the duchess³; over which were appointed several officers, viz. six commissioners divided into two classes, the first and second, four comptrollers, two secretaries, one for each class, two warders, one treasurer, four tellers, four feeders, eight laborers at the fly, two porters, a messenger; a store-keeper and two door-keepers. Each set of men were obliged to work at each press twelve hours night and day, wherefore a double set of hands was required⁴. The commissioners in Dublin were, John Trinder, Thomas Goddard, William Talbot, William Brumfield, Francis Rice, and Edward Fox, esqrs; and Walter Plunket, at Limerick. The secretaries Mr. John Tringer and Mr. Samuel Clark, Mr. Hewlet, treasurer, Messrs. Holland, Morgan, Osborn and Dempsey, comptrollers.

This settled, they went to work, and king James, on the eighteenth of June issued a proclamation⁵ for making two sorts of money, of brass and copper mixed-metal, current in this kingdom. The one for twelve, and the other for six pence. These pieces have on one side that prince's head laureat, with this inscription *IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA.* and on the reverse, two scepters in saltire through a crown, between the letters *I. R.* with the date of the year, and the value of each piece above, viz. *XII.* on the Shilling, and *VI.* on the Six-pence, under it the month wherein each piece was struck, and round it, *MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.* The Shilling has the king's neck bare, but on the Six-pence, it is garnished. See Plate VII. Numb. 147 and 148. By another proclamation⁶, of the twenty-seventh of the same month, a larger piece was ordered to be struck of the same kind of mixed metal, and to pass as current money within this kingdom, at the rate of half a crown, or thirty pence. They have the king's neck garnished, and the value *xxx* instead of *xii.* as to the rest, the stamp and inscription is the same as that of the shilling. See Plate VII. Numb. 155. These Half-crowns weigh from seven penny-weight twelve grains to nine penny-weight fifteen grains; the shillings from three penny-weight fifteen grains to four penny-weight fifteen grains, and the Six-pences from one penny-weight twenty

¹ Appendix, No. 73.

² Ibid. No. 74.

³ Mint book of orders, i. n. 1689. Audit office, Dublin.

⁴ Ibidem.

⁵ Appendix, No. 75.

⁶ Ibid. No. 76.

grains to two penny-weight eight grains. Some of these coins for every month, JAMES II. A. D. 1689: from June, 1689 to April, 1690, inclusive, are in the hands of the curious.

But although mortgages, bills, bonds, or obligations, debts due by record, and money left in trust, were by the forementioned proclamations excepted, and not to be reimbursed in this copper money; yet a proclamation came out on the fourth of February following^b, whereby that prince ordered, that the said money should be paid and received in payment, for all manner of debts whatsoever, without exception.

As the mint could not go on without metal, the secretary of state, lord Melfort, sent an order to lord Mountcashel, master general of the ordnance, to deliver to the commissioners of the mint, some old brass-guns, which were in the castle-yard^c. A circular order^d was also sent to all the collectors of the revenue, to procure all the copper and brass, that could be had in their respective districts, and to send it up as fast as possible. And in order to encourage the subject to bring their plate and their gold and silver species to the mint to exchange it for this copper money, the commissioners of the mint were ordered^e to give six pence in the pound in copper for all silver and gold brought into the mint, where it was to be taken at the current value and full weight.

For a further inducement to take this money, it was thought proper to issue a proclamation^f the twenty-eighth of February following, declaring "that all persons should be at liberty, by way of loan, to pay into the treasury any sums of the said money, or of any other money current in this kingdom, and that all such persons shall upon demand be repaid the said sums in the *current money* of the said kingdom, with the interest thereon, at the rate of *six per cent. per annum.*" And by another proclamation^g of the ninth of June, 1690, this prince instead of six *per cent.* promised to pay *ten per cent.* for such money, as should be brought into his treasury by way of loan. 1690.

In March, 1690, three new and different kinds of money were struck, *viz.* Penny pieces, and Half-penny pieces, made of a mixture of lead and tin; and crown pieces of a white mixed metal.^h The Penny-piece of the bigness of a shilling, and the Half-penny of that of a six pence; both having on one side, the king's head laureat, the neck bare, and this inscription, *IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA*, and on the reverse a piece of prince's metal fixed in the middle, with the harp crowned and *MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX.* with the date of the year 1689, 1690. See Plate VII. 150 and 151. and Plate VIII. Numb. 176. I have one of each date. Some of these pennies have the value 1^p stamped behind the king's head, and others have not, these last answering the description given in the warrantⁱ. The Half-penny differs from the Penny in that it has the king's head, Cæsar-like, with short hair. These were by procla-

^a Appendix, No. 77.

^b Ibid. No. 79.

^c Ibid. No. 81.

^d Ibid. No. 78.

^e Ibid. No. 80.

^f Ibid. No. 82.

^g Irish-hist. lib. p. 172. Leake, p. 383.

^h Appendix, No. 83.

JAMES II. mation, of the twenty-eighth of March¹, ordered to pass, as lawful and current money of Ireland.
A. D. 1690.

The third kind of money struck in this and the next month, were the Crowns of white metal; these have on one side the figure of the king in armour, on horse-back, holding a drawn sword in his hand, his head laureat, and this inscription, IAC. II. DEI. GRA. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. reverse, a speck of prince's metal fixed in the middle, with the arms of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, in four crowned shields cross-wise, a crown in the center, and in the quarters or angles of the cross ANO. DOM. 1690. with this legend, CHRISTO. VICTORE. TRIUMPHO. and upon the rim MELIORIS. TESSERA. FATI. ANNO. REGNI SEXTO. A proclamation was issued the twenty-first of April following¹, whereby they were ordered, under very severe penalties, to be taken and received in payment, at the rate of five shillings.

This crown is so exceedingly scarce, that the learned bishop Nicholson² thought they had not been made current, and that the Success at the battle of the Boyne had prevented the publishing of this proclamation: but, as besides the printed proclamation which is in the books of the council office, and one in my possession, I have seen two or three others in different hands; it is evident therefore that the proclamation was made public, and consequently that this coin was issued out. And moreover, from the twenty-first of April, to the first of July, there was time sufficient to issue a good deal of that money, and even more than of the brass and copper crowns, which were coined about two or three months after.

On the fifteenth of June following three proclamations were published; one³ for the calling in of the large half-crown pieces of brass and copper struck before the month of May preceding, which were to be restamped or coined anew into crown pieces, though of the same bigness. Another⁴ for making the said crown pieces of mixed metal, to pass as the current coin of Ireland, at the rate of five shillings each.

These crowns have on one side the effigies of the king in armour, on horse-back, holding a drawn sword in his right hand, his head crowned with laurel, and this inscription, IAC. DEI. GRA. MAG. BRI. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. on the other side the arms of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland in four crowned shields, cross-wise, and in the center a crown, with CHRISTO. VICTORE. TRIUMPHO. and in the four angles of the cross ANO. DOM. 1690. See Plate VII. Numb. 157. Some want the stroke (—) over the words *Ano* and *Dom*. The Crowns, which were molten down and coined anew, weigh from eight penny-weight fifteen grains to nine penny-weight fifteen grains, and on those that were only restamped, the former impression is still visible.

New half-crown and shilling pieces were at this time coined smaller and lighter than the former, but with the same stamps and impressions; they have likewise the

¹ Appendix, No. 84.

² Irish hist. lib. p. 172.

³ Ibid. No. 85.

⁴ Appendix, No. 86.

⁵ Ibid. No. 87.

month wherein they were coined, and the king's neck bare. The Half-crown weighs JAMES II. A. D. 1690. from four penny-weight twenty grains to five penny-weight, and the Shilling from three penny-weight two grains to three penny-weight six grains. See Plate VII. Numb. 149 and 155.

The third proclamation², under pain of death and forfeiture, forbad any person whatsoever to give more than thirty shillings in copper and brass money for any pistole or French-lewis of gold, and so in proportion for any other piece of Spanish or French gold; or for any guinea, more than thirty-eight shillings of the said copper and brass money, and so in proportion for any other piece of English gold; or more than seven shillings and six-pence of the same brass and copper money for any crown-piece of silver, and so in proportion for any other piece of silver.

By all the beforementioned proclamations, the subjects were ordered to take and accept in payments, the said brass and copper money, and any one refusing to receive the same, at the rates therein mentioned, was to be punished according to the utmost rigor of the law, as contemnors of the king's royal prerogative and commands. The counterfeiting of this precious coin was declared high-treason, and the exporting or importing of it was also forbidden under severe penalties.

It appears from archbishop King's state of the protestants of Ireland¹, and from the coins extant, that the metal, this money was made of, was very bad; being a mixture of old guns³, old broken bells⁴, old copper, brass and pewter taken from the absentees⁵, old kitchen furniture, and the refuse of metals molten down together, and valued by the workmen in the mint at no more than three or four pence the pound weight⁶; but when coined into six penny, twelve penny, and half-crown pieces, and made current by arbitrary power, it passed at the rate of five pounds sterling the pound weight, or eleven thousand two hundred pounds the ton; when at the real value, namely, four pence the pound weight, this compound metal was not worth more than thirty-seven pound six shillings and eight pence the ton. But when the Half-crown was restamped and made current at five shillings, and the Shilling, or Twelve-penny piece made near one half lighter, then did a ton of this metal fetch in twenty-two thousand four hundred pounds sterling, and a pound weight of it pass at the rate of ten pounds sterling. Archbishop King observes⁷, that in twelve months time, from the first setting up of the mint to the first of July 1690, there was coined of this money to the value of nine hundred sixty-five thousand three hundred and seventy-five pounds sterling. Dean Story says⁸, there was not much above one million one hundred thousand pounds: but it appears from an abstract of that coinage⁹, that the whole sum amounted to one million five hundred ninety-

Appendix, No. 88.

Page 152.

¹ Ib. ut supra.

² Appendix, No. 78.

³ Ibid. No. 89.

⁴ Hist. of Ireland, p. 93.

⁵ Ibid. No. 90.

⁶ Madden's MSS. Trin. col. Dublin, cl. F.

⁷ King's state of the protestants. p. 152.

tab. 4. No. 4.

JAMES II. six thousand seven hundred ninety-nine pounds and six pence. The account
A. D. stands thus.
1690.

Weight of Metal.		Value.	
Pounds.	ounces.	£.	s. d.
62422	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	coined into	large shillings 245879 17 0
110308	15		large half-crowns 443498 10 0
172731	1 $\frac{1}{2}$		large shillings and half crowns 689378 7 0
14080	3		small six-pences 49042 6 6
8914	11 $\frac{3}{4}$		small shillings 41800 0 0
21267	0 $\frac{3}{4}$		small half-crowns 127200 0 0
389724	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	£. 1596799 0 6	

This weight makes one hundred seventy-three tons nineteen hundred two quarters and twenty-one pounds, at four pence *per* pound, thirty-seven shillings and four pence *per* hundred, or thirty-seven pound six shillings and eight pence *per* ton, and amounts to six thousand four hundred ninety-five pounds eight shillings and four pence, which when coined and issued as current money produced one million five hundred ninety-six thousand seven hundred ninety-nine pounds and six-pence; and as we must add to this sum, what was produced by the raising of the large half-crown pieces, from two shillings and six pence to five shillings, we shall find on the second article of this abstract an encrease of four hundred and forty-three thousand four hundred ninety-eight pounds ten shillings; and supposing but one half of the large shillings in the first article to have been reduced in weight, we shall have another encrease of one hundred twenty-two thousand nine hundred thirty-nine pounds eighteen shillings and six pence; a very moderate computation, if we consider the number of these large shillings, and small half-crowns mentioned in the first, third and sixth articles of this abstract. These two sums added to the above amount will give us two million one hundred sixty-three thousand two hundred thirty-seven pound nine shillings, the produce of six thousand four hundred ninety-five pounds, the real value of the metal. There might be a further addition to this large sum, if we knew what proportion of the third article was coined into half-crowns and re-stamped into crowns, which consequently doubled in value, as also what sums were coined into white mixed metal crowns, in pewter pennies and half-pennies. Now let the impartial reader judge what a prodigious sum of money was raised by this scheme in so short a time! one hundred and eighty thousand two hundred sixty-nine pounds fifteen shillings and nine pence *per* month. Yet, of all this, when that unhappy prince fled from Ireland, there was but little left and found in the mint, not above twenty-two thousand four hundred eighty-nine pounds, as appears by the accounts of lord Coningsby vice-treasurer of Ireland*, and for which he accounted as follows.

* Book of acc. 1690, Audit office, Dublin.

	£.	d.	£.	s.	d.	JAMES II. A. D. 1690.
17292 copper crowns	4323	valued at 1 each	72	1	0	
126503 large half-crowns	15812	17 6 1	527	1	11	
2489 small crowns	311	2 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	15	6	
9043 large shillings	452	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	16	9	
4757 small ditto	237	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	19	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
6000 copper six-pences	150	$\frac{1}{4}$	6	5	0	
4808 pewter crowns †	1202	$\frac{1}{4}$	5		0	
<hr/>						
£. 22489 accounted for						£. 641 19 3 $\frac{1}{4}$

And although great part of this copper and brass money was forced on the protestants^b, by taking their goods and giving them this coin in payment, yet it appears from a proclamation^c issued the twenty-third of February, 1690, that the Roman catholic subjects were far the greater sufferers by it; since, as the proclamation says, it was found by experience, that they had then in their possession the whole, or the far greater part of the said coin. What then became of all the gold and silver, the produce of this copper money, if those who stood for and in defence of that prince, and should have shared in the spoil, were so great sufferers? he ran away with their substance, and left them to shift for themselves. Glorious recompence for so much blood spilt in his service!

After this prince had left Ireland, another kind of copper and brass money was struck by his adherents in Limerick, during the siege of that place, which, from the word stamped on their reverse, were called *Hibernias*. As some of these are thinner, others thicker, some larger and some less, and the former legend being still visible on many of them, it is plain, that some of the former shillings were only restamped there, and the larger pieces molten down and coined anew. They have on one side the king's head laureat, with this epigraphe, IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. and on the reverse, Ireland represented by a woman sitting and resting upon a harp, holding up a cross in her right hand, and round it HIBERNIA. 1691. See Plate VII. Numb. 152. All these different kinds of money have a graining round the edge, or, as the proclamations have it, are fringed round. Another kind of pewter half-penny was struck in 1689, but where, is uncertain; the draught of it was sent me by the ingenious Mr. Charles Smith of Dungarvan, and is represented in Plate VII. Numb. 153. It has on one side the figure of the king on horse-back, holding a sword in his right hand, and two round specks of brass on the fore and hind part of the horse, with this legend, IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA. reverse, two scepters in saltire through a crown of brass, crest a lion, and under the crown a harp, the word HALF.—PENY. on each side of it, and round the whole, MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX. 1689. It is

† In the original, these crowns are called metal crowns.

Half-crowns, but as no such, as it appears, were
 coined of pewter, they must be the white mixed

^b King's state of protestants, p. 152.

^c Appendix, No. 92.

JAMES II. very probable that this Half-penny was struck in the mint at Limerick, at the same time that the forementioned pewter half-pence and farthings were struck in Dublin; and that they might be the better distinguished from each other, they had a different stamp. The same gentleman has favoured me with the draught of a silver piece, which I take to be a medal struck on the landing of king James in Ireland. It represents on one side that prince in his royal robes, the crown on his head, and a scepter or staff in his hand, a ship behind him, and, before, multitudes of people waiting to receive him, with this inscription, *IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA.* reverse, two scepters in saltire through a crown, with this motto, *INTEMERATA.* and round the whole, *MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.* 1689. See Plate VII. Numb. 154. Another piece, of white mixed metal, was struck here by this prince, of the bigness of his copper Six-pence, it has on one side his head laureat, with this inscription, *IACOBVS. II. DEI. GRATIA.* reverse, a harp crowned between the figures II—II, the date 1689 over it, and this legend, *MAG. BR. FRA. ET. HIB. REX.* See Plate VIII. Numb. 177. There are silver pieces with the stamps of the beforementioned copper six pences, shillings, half-crowns and crowns, which were either designed for proof-pieces, or for some curious, who happening to be at the mint, gave a piece of silver to be struck for them.

WILLIAM and MARY. The first thing king William did, after the glorious and ever-memorable day of the Boyne, with respect to the coin of this kingdom, was to issue a proclamation^a from his camp at Finglas, near Dublin, whereby he reduced the extravagant value of the late copper and brass money, to the value of copper money, formerly current in Ireland. The large copper and brass half-crowns, and new stamped crowns of king James, were ordered to pass at one penny each, the small half-crowns at three farthings, the large copper shillings and six-pences at one farthing each.

It is very probable, that the king renewed or confirmed to colonel Roger Moore the patent which he had from Sir John Knox, for it appears^d, that from this time he continued to coin half-pennies and farthings of copper, and some of pewter^e. Those of copper have on one side the heads of the king and queen in profile, looking to the left, the king's laureat and first, with this inscription, *GVLIELMVS. ET. MARIA. DEI. GRATIA.* reverse, the harp crowned, and *MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX. ET. REGINA.* with the date on each side of the crown, 16—90. 16—91. 16—92. 16—93. 16—94. See Plate VII. Numb. 158. I have not seen any of the pewter half-pence and farthings, but I am told, they had the same stamp and inscription, with a little speck of brass or copper in the middle.

By a proclamation^f of the seventeenth of February, 1692, it appears that a proclamation (which I cannot find) had been published some time before for making these tin and copper farthings and half-pence current in this kingdom. And on

^a Appendix, No. 93.

^d Hibern. Patriot, p. 63.

^e A large number of them is accounted for

by lord Coningsby. Book of Acc. 1690. Audit. office.

^f Appendix, No. 94.

the twenty-third of February, this year, another proclamation^a was issued by the lords justices and council, for decrying and totally abolishing the brass and copper money lately coined by king James; thereby declaring, that none of it should hereafter be paid or received in payment, by or between any persons whatsoever.

WILLIAM
and
MARY.
A. D.
1690.

Some ill-affected and designing persons having about this time spread some false rumours, as if the copper and tin half-pence and farthings coined by the then patentee, were not to be received in payment, which might have caused a great obstruction to the trade of this kingdom; the lord lieutenant and council thought proper, in order to quiet the minds of the people, to issue a proclamation^b, the seventeenth of February, declaring, that the said copper and tin half-pence and farthings, struck by virtue of the royal patent, and having the stamps and inscriptions beforementioned, were to be taken and received in payment, as current money of this kingdom.

1693.

After the death of that excellent princess Queen Mary II. new copper half-pence and farthings were struck here, having on one side the king's head laureat, looking to the left, with this epigraphe, *GVLIELMVS. III. DEI. GRA.* reverse, the crowned harp and *MAG. BR. FR. ET. HIB. REX.* with the date on each side of the crown 16—95. 16—96. &c. See Plate VII. Numb. 159. These and the last mentioned half-pence weigh from four penny-weight ten grains to four penny-weight twenty grains.

WILL-III
A. D.
1695.

The value of gold and silver monies having of late been raised abroad, was a great inducement to many to transport the current coin out of this kingdom. In order therefore to prevent that mischief, it was thought proper to raise likewise the value of all foreign gold and silver coins current in Ireland; and accordingly a proclamation^c was issued the twenty-ninth of May this year, for raising the said gold and silver, and declaring the same to be current within this kingdom, at the rates and value therein mentioned, viz.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	{ The Spanish, or French Pistole.....	4	8	1	1	0
	{ The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	4	0	10	6
Silver	{ The Ducatoon	20	16	0	6	8
	{ The Half, ditto	10	8	0	3	4
	{ The Quarter, ditto	5	4	0	1	8
	{ The Mexico, Sevil or Pillar-piece of eight, the Rix-dollar, or Cross-dollar, and all other Dollars, and the French-Lewis,	17	0	0	5	4
	{ The Halves, ditto	8	12	0	2	8
	{ The Quarters, ditto	4	6	0	1	4

^a Appendix, No. 92.

^b Ibid. No. 94.

^c Ibid. No. 95.

WILL. III
A. D.
1695.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Silver {	The old Peru-piece of eight	17	0	0	4	10
	The Half, ditto	8	12	0	2	5
	The Quarter, ditto	4	6	0	1	2½
	The Crusadoe of Portugal	10	20	0	3	6
	The Half, ditto	5	10	0	1	9

Two-pence to be allowed for each grain deficient in the weight of any piece of gold, and three half-pence for each half-penny-weight wanting in any piece of silver. And although no mention is made in this proclamation, of the value of the English gold and silver coins, yet I presume we may date from this time their raising here likewise in value, the Guinea to twenty-six shillings; the Half-guinea to thirteen shillings; the Crown to five shillings and ten pence; the Half-crown to two shillings and eleven pence; the Shilling to one shilling and two pence; and the Six-pence to seven pence.

1697. Such great quantities of counterfeit half-pence had been about this time imported into this kingdom from Scotland, and other parts beyond the seas, and dispersed in the northern parts of Ireland, that there was hardly any other small change to be seen or found in those parts, but such raps or counterfeit coin. For remedying of which evil, the lords justices and council issued a proclamation the thirteenth of August^a to prohibit the importation of this false money, commanding all justices of peace, mayors, and other magistrates, and all officers of his majesty's revenue, to seize and secure all quantities or parcels of the said counterfeit half-pence, declaring also, that all persons concerned or assisting in the importation of the same should be prosecuted, according to the utmost rigour of the law.

Another proclamation¹ was issued the tenth of December following, for putting a stop to another growing evil of a much more dangerous consequence; the importing or making counterfeit pieces of gold and silver, and uttering them in this kingdom. It was therefore ordered, that no person should import, make, or utter, any counterfeit piece of gold or silver, or buy the same knowing it to be so, before it was cut through the middle, or so defaced and broken, that it could not pass; strictly commanding all judges, justices of the peace, and other officers of justices, duly to put the laws of force in this kingdom against coiners, and utterers of false money, in execution; that they might be punished as enemies to the public welfare of this land.

On the twenty-first of February following, a proclamation^m came out for settling the standard of weights to be used in the weighing of the gold and silver monies in this kingdom, and forbidding any person to make, sell or adjust the said weights, except Vincent Kidder, the person appointed by this proclamation for that purpose.

^a Appendix, No. 96.

¹ Ibid. No. 97.

^m Ibid. No. 98.

Several coiners of false money, having about this time fled from England and other places, and taken refuge in this kingdom, where they did continue their wicked and pernicious trade, the lords justices and council issued a proclamation*, commanding all magistrates and officers of justice to apprehend such false coiners, and offering a reward of ten pounds for taking any of them.

WILLIAM
A. D.
1698.

On the second of June, 1701, the last year of this great prince, of glorious and immortal memory, a proclamation was issued*, for reducing the value of the several species of gold and silver current in this kingdom to the respective rates therein mentioned, viz.

1701.

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	{ The Spanish, or French pistole	4	8	0	18	6
	{ The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	4	0	9	3
Silver	The Ducatoon	20	16	0	6	0
	The Half, ditto	10	8	0	3	0
	The Quarter, ditto	5	4	0	1	6
	The Mexico, Sevil, or Pillar-piece of eight, Cross- dollar, and other dollars, and the French-Lewis, }	17	0	0	4	9
	The Halves ditto	8	12	0	2	4½
	The Quarters ditto	4	6	0	1	2¼
	The old Peru-piece of eight	17	0	0	4	6
	The Half, ditto	8	12	0	2	3
	The Quarter, ditto	4	6	0	1	1½
	The Crusadoe of Portugal	10	20	0	3	3
	The Half, ditto	5	10	0	1	7

Two pence to be allowed for every grain wanting in the weight of the gold, and three half-pence for every half penny-weight deficient in any piece of the silver.

It is thought that at this time, the Guineas, which before passed for twenty-six shillings were reduced to twenty-three shillings, and the Half-guinea to eleven shillings and six-pence; the Crown which passed for five shillings and ten pence, or, as some say, for six shillings, was reduced to five shillings and five pence; the Half-crown to two shillings and eight pence half-penny; the Shilling to one shilling and one penny; and the Six-pence to six pence half-penny. But as I could not find the proclamation for it, I must give it as I got it: upon common report.

There was no money of any kind struck for Ireland during the reign of queen Anne. Some few regulations only were made relating to the currency of money in this kingdom; and the first that I find is a proclamation* published the nineteenth of August, 1708, whereby, for the more effectual enforcing the several proclamations beforementioned to regulate the weights and currency of foreign coins in this

ANNE.
A. D.
1701-2

1708.

* Appendix, No. 99.

* Ibid. No. 100.

* Ibid. No. 101.

ANNE. kingdom, ~~it~~ was declared, that all the said coins, though they should want of their
A. D. respective weight, should be paid and received in payment on allowance being made
1708. of two pence for each grain deficient in the weight of any piece of gold, and of three half-pence for every half penny-weight wanting in the weight of any piece of silver; and that any piece of the said gold or silver, being standing weight, should pass and be received at the rates set forth in the said proclamations.

1712. By another proclamation^a of the thirteenth of July, this year, the value of foreign gold and silver coins was ascertained, and the same made current at the respective rates therein mentioned, *viz.*

		Weight.		Value.		
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
Gold	The Spanish Quadruple-pistole	17	8	3	14	0
	The Spanish, or French Double-pistole	8	16	1	17	0
	The Spanish, or French Pistole	4	8	0	18	6
	The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	4	0	9	3
	The Spanish, or French Quarter-pistole	1	2	0	4	7½
	The Moidore of Portugal	6	22	1	10	0
	The Half-moidore	3	11	0	15	0
	The Quarter-moidore	1	17½	0	7	6
Silver	The Ducatoon	20	16	0	6	0
	The Half, ditto	10	8	0	3	0
	The Quarter ditto	5	4	0	1	6
	The Mexico, Sevil, or Pillar-piece of eight, the Cross-dollar, and other Dollars, and the French- Lewis	17	0	0	4	9
	The Halves, ditto	8	12	0	2	4½
	The Quarters,	4	6	0	1	2¼
	The old Peru-piece of eight	17	0	0	4	6
	The Half, ditto	8	12	0	2	3
	The Quarter, ditto	4	6	0	1	1½
	The Crusadoe of Portugal	10	20	0	3	3
	The Half, ditto	5	10	0	1	7

With the allowances before mentioned, for any deficiency of weight in any of the said pieces of gold or silver respectively.

1714. On the twenty-fourth of July, this year, another proclamation^a was published, for making the New French Lewis d'Or and silver current in this kingdom, at the following rates, *viz.*

^a Appendix, No. 102.

.. Ibid. No. 103.

		Weight.		Value.			ANNE. A. D. 1714.
		dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.	
Gold	{ The French Lewis-d'Or of the new species	5	5	1	2	0	
	{ The Half, ditto	2	14½	0	11	0	
	{ The Quarter, ditto	1	7¼	0	5	6	
Silver	{ The French Silver Lewis of the new species	19	15	0	5	6	
	{ The Half, ditto	9	18½	0	2	9	
	{ The Quarter, ditto	4	21¼	0	1	4½	

With such allowances as above, and all the aforementioned gold or silver pieces being standing weight to be paid and received in payment, at the above respective rates*.

On the fifth of May, 1718, a proclamation* was issued by the lords justices and council, for the more effectual enforcing of the two last proclamations, which it recites, declaring that no gold or silver money should be paid without weighing the same, and making such allowances for any deficiency of weight as in the said proclamation is set forth. Geo. I.
A. D.
1714.
1718.

This year, his majesty granted a patent to William Wood, Esq; for the term of fourteen years, for the sole privilege of coining copper Half-pence and Farthings in England, for the use of Ireland, "The whole quantity for that space of time, " being limited to three hundred and sixty tons of copper, a pound of copper to be 1722.

* By an English stat. 8 Ann. (made perpetual 4 Geo. I. cap. 9.) it is enacted, cap. 45, that if any person shall mark on the edges any counterfeit coin resembling her majesty's coin, or other coin made, or which shall be made current in this kingdom, with letters, grainings, or other mark like those on the edges of money coined in the queen's mint, or other current coin in this kingdom, every such offender, his aiders and abettors, shall be guilty of high treason. Cap. 46. If any person shall colour, gild, or case over with gold or silver, or any wash or materials producing the color of gold and silver, any coin resembling her majesty's coin, or other coin made, or which shall be made current in this kingdom, or any figured blanks of base metal, or coarse gold or silver, of the size of milled money, or gild over silver blanks of fit size, and figure, to be coined into pieces resembling the current gold coin of this kingdom, every such person, his aiders and abettors, shall be guilty of high-treason. Cap. 47. If any instrument or engine, used or designed for coining or counterfeiting gold or silver money, shall be found concealed in the house or possession

of any person not employed in some of the queen's mints, any person may seize the same, and carry them to some justice of the peace to be produced in evidence against that person who shall be prosecuted for such offences. Cap. 51. Any person to whom any gold or silver money shall be tendered, any pieces whereof may be suspected to be counterfeit, may cut, break, or deface the same, and thereupon appearing to be counterfeit, the tenderer shall bear the loss, but appearing to be lawful, the person who cut it shall take it at its currency. Cap. 52. If any dispute arise, whether the piece so cut be counterfeit, it shall be determined by the chief officer of the place where tendered, if a city, or town corporate; or if not, by the next justice of peace of the county, who may administer an oath as they shall see convenient for determining any question relating to the said piece. Cap. 53. All officers concerned in the receipt of her majesty's revenue, may cut or deface every piece of counterfeit or unlawfully diminished silver money tendered them for her majesty's use.

* Appendix, No. 104.

GEO. I. "coined into two shillings and six pence; one hundred tons to be issued the first
 A. D. "year, and twenty tons each year for the thirteen remaining years; a rent of eight
 1722. "hundred pounds *per annum* being reserved to his majesty, and two hundred
 "pounds *per annum* to his majesty's clerk-comptroller, to be paid annually by the
 "patentee, for the full term of fourteen years." Had the whole quantity of copper
 limited by the patent been coined, the three hundred and sixty tons at two shillings
 and six pence *per pound*, would have amounted in current value to one hundred thou-
 sand eight hundred pounds, and, as the copper, according to Sir Isaac Newton's
 report, of the twenty-seventh of April, 1724, was not worth in the market above
 twelve or thirteen pence the pound, the whole quantity would not have cost in Bristol
 above forty thousand three hundred and twenty pounds, the difference therefore in
 favour of the patentee would have been sixty thousand four hundred and eighty
 pounds, out of which deducting fourteen thousand pound, the reserved rent for
 fourteen years, there would have still remained forty-six thousand four hundred and
 eighty pounds for his profit and expences of coinage. But as "these Half-pence"
 "were not so equally coined in weight as they should have been," had the patentee
 been permitted to go on he would have made a much larger profit, to the very great
 disadvantage of Ireland.

As this affair made a great noise, both in this kingdom and in England, I shall,
 in order to clear this matter, beg leave to give the following account. On several
 parcels of these Half-pence being sent over, at different times by Mr. Wood, in or-
 der to be issued out and uttered, a small number out of each parcel were taken at
 random, weighed, and divided into four sorts, *viz.*

The different Parcels.	Weight of 1 Half-pe.	Number in a pound.		Current value		
		Integers.	Decimals.	d.	$\frac{1}{2}d.$	Dec.
The first sort	120 grs.	58	33	29	0	33
The second sort	111	68	06	31	1	06
The third sort	103	67	96	38	1	96
The fourth sort	196	72	91	36	0	91
The mean proportion	107 5	65	11	32	1	11

	Quantity coined.	Intrinsic value.	Current value.			Loss to the public.	
		£.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s. d.
If the first sort had been coined ...	360	40320	97994	8	0	57674	8 0
If the second sort	tons	.....	105940	16	0	65620	16 0
If the third sort .....	.....	.....	114172	16	0	73852	16 0
If the fourth sort .....	.....	.....	122488	16	0	82168	16 0
If in the mean proportion .....	.....	.....	109384	16	0	69064	16 0
If according to the patent, .....	.....	.....	100800	00	0	60480	00 0

• Report of the Committee 24 July, 1724. • Sir Isaac Newton's Report, 27 April, 1724.

Thus the public would have lost, at a medium, sixty-nine thousand and sixty-four pounds sixteen shillings, and even had Mr. Wood made his Half-pence of the weight limited by the patent, yet the loss to this kingdom would have amounted to sixty thousand four hundred and eighty pounds, every half-penny in the pound weight exceeding the number directed by the patent, giving the patentee one thousand six hundred and eighty pounds profit. I shall further observe, that the English half-pence being but forty-four half pieces to the pound, three hundred and sixty tons would make in current money seventy-four thousand seven hundred and sixty pounds only, that is, twenty-seven thousand seven hundred and twenty pounds less than by the patent for Ireland.

Geo. I.
A. D.
1722.

For these reasons, the lords justices and council, both houses of parliament, and the grand-juries of the city and county of Dublin, petitioned his majesty*, to put a stop to the currency of these Half-pence; and accordingly Mr. Wood, in 1724, surrendered his patent†. About seventeen thousand pounds value* of these Half-pence and Farthings were sent over and uttered in this kingdom in the years 1722 and 1723.

These coins have on one side the king's head laureat, looking to the left with this inscription, GEORGIUS. DEI. GRATIA. REX. reverse, Ireland represented by a woman sitting, holding a palm-branch in her right hand, resting her left on a harp, and round it, HIBERNIA. 1722.—1723.—1724. Another Half-penny and Farthing of 1722 1724. have the figure of Ireland, on the reverse, sitting also, but holding the harp with her two hands, and HIBERNIA 1722. See Plate VII. Numb. 160 and 161. These are a much handsomer coin, than the English copper-ones of that prince, the head more resembling his majesty, and in the opinion of Sir Isaac Newton* who tried them, the best copper money that had been, yet, made for Ireland.

This year a proclamation was issued, the twenty-second of January^b, for 1725. making the new gold coin of Portugal current in this kingdom, at the rates following, viz.

	Weight.		Value.		
	dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
The New gold coin of Portugal	18	9	4	0	0
The Half, ditto	9	5	2	0	0
The Quarter, ditto	4	15	1	0	0
The Half-quarter, ditto	2	8	0	10	0
The Sixteenth, ditto	1	3	0	5	0

With an allowance of two pence for each grain deficient in the weight of any piece of the said gold.

* Historical-Register, 1724. Report of the Committee, 1724, and the Hib. Patriot. Appendix, No. 105. reduce his coinage from £. 100000 to £. 40000. Contin. of Rapin. vol. iii. p. 975. edit. Dublin, 1748.

† Leake, p. 419.

* Newton's report.

* Ibid. Mr. Tindal says that Wood agreed to

† Appendix, No. 106.

Geo. II. For some years past, the want of small change was so great, that several persons
 A. D. in the North, and other parts of the kingdom were obliged to make copper and
 1737. silver tokens, which they passed as promissory notes among their workmen, customers, and neighbours, those of copper for two pence, and those of silver for three pence; the inscription on the first is, *I promise to pay the bearer two pence*, and on the other, *I promise to pay the bearer three pence*, and each has the name of the person who issued them, with the place of his abode. I have some of these tokens struck at Armagh, Belfast, Dromore, Lurgan and Porta-down; and probably the like were stamped in other places. In Dublin, Mr. James Maculla, a brazier, issued a very neat copper penny and half-penny, having on one side this inscription, *I promise to pay the bearer on demand twenty pence for these*, and on the reverse, *Cash notes val. received, 1729, James Maculla. 1^d or ½^d.*

1736. In order to remedy the many inconveniencies, which affected the trade, and particularly the linen-manufacture of this kingdom, by the want of good copper money, his majesty was this year graciously pleased at the humble request of the lords justices and council of Ireland, to direct that a proper agent should be appointed to contract for fifty tons of copper, to be delivered to the master of his majesty's mint, in his tower of London, and also to authorise and command the said master of his mint to receive from such person, as the lord lieutenant, or the lords justices, or any of them, should appoint and contract with for that purpose, fine copper, which, when heated red hot, would spread thin under the hammer without cracking, and out of the same to coin fifty tons, or such greater quantity as should be necessary for the service of this kingdom, one sixth part in farthings, and five sixths in half-pence, of such size as that fifty two Half-pence, and one hundred and four Farthings may make a pound avoirdupois, excepting only such errors by accident, not by design, as might happen by the unequal size of the bars, not exceeding the thirtieth part of a pound weight. And that his majesty's effigies with the inscription, *Georgius H. Rex*, should be stamped on one side of each piece, the Irish harp crowned on the other side, and over it the word *Hibernia*, with the date of the year under it; directions were also given to the monier of the mint that none of this money should be distributed before it had been properly and duly assayed.

His majesty was likewise graciously pleased to direct, that the costs of the said fifty tons of copper, and all charges attending the coining and transmitting the said coin into this kingdom, should be paid by his vice-treasurer, receiver-general, or pay-master-general of this kingdom, or their deputies for the time being, and that whatever profit should arise from the said coinage, after the above necessary expences defrayed, should be made good to the nation, and go into the public revenue at large of this kingdom, to be employed, as any part of the unemployed revenue of the same is employed. Supposing therefore that the copper cost thirteen pence per pound, the fifty tons, at twenty hundred per ton, will amount to five thousand two hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling, and the produce when coined, at the rate of fifty-two half-pence to a pound, will be ten thousand five

hundred and thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight pence English, of which deducting the charges of coining and expences from London to Dublin, the remaining surplus is to be accounted for and brought into the public revenue, without any profit to his majesty or loss to the nation. Geo. II.
A. D.
1736.

A certain quantity of this money was accordingly coined in the tower of London and sent over in April, 1737; and after having been duly assayed before his majesty's council, by the assay-master of Ireland, the lords justices and council, by his majesty's order, issued a proclamation^{*} the sixth of May following, for making this coin current in this kingdom, as also for continuing the currency of such other good copper money, as was before coined and current in the same by virtue of any patent granted by his majesty's Predecessors; declaring at the same time, that the said copper money, either old or new, shall not be enforced on the subjects, but that it shall be paid to such only as are willing to receive it, and not above six-pence value in any one payment. Any person presuming to make, vend, or utter, any other half-pence or farthings, or other pieces of brass or copper, or other base metal, or other than the copper money coined under the said patents, or that now is, or shall be hereafter coined in his majesty's tower of London for the use of this kingdom, or that shall counterfeit any of the said copper money, such persons to be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. 1737.

This coin is certainly beautiful and very neatly stamped, having on one side his majesty's head laureat, with short hair and the neck bare, looking to the right and this inscription, GEORGIVS. OR GEORGIUS. II. REX. reverse the harp crowned, with the word HIBERNIA. above, and under it the date of the year of each coinage, 1736.—1737.—1738.—1741.—1742.—1744.—1746.—1747.—1748. and on the Farthings 1737.—1738.—1744. The Half-penny weighs from one hundred and thirty-four grains to one hundred and thirty-five grains troy, and the Farthings from sixty-four to seventy-one grains. See Plate VIII. Numb. 170 and 171.

The great disproportion in value between such gold and silver coins, as had been made current in this kingdom by the several proclamations before-mentioned, (the gold being rated at about two and a half *per cent.* more than the silver,) proved a great temptation to many to melt down the silver coin, to transport it as bullion, and even to carry it away in species, in defiance of the several laws and statutes in force in this kingdom. To remedy this mischief, several schemes were offered to the government, and many curious dissertations wrote on that subject; it was at last thought proper to bring the gold and silver to near a par, by lowering the value of the first; wherefore a proclamation^{*} was issued by the lords justices and council, the twenty-ninth of September this year, for ascertaining the rates of such foreign gold species as are thereby made current in this kingdom, at the rates following, viz.

^{*} Appendix, No. 107.

^{*} Ibid. No. 108.

Gzo. II.
A. D.
1797.

	Weight.		Value.		
	dwt.	grs.	£.	s.	d.
The Guinea at	0	0	1	2	9
The Half-Guinea	0	0	0	11	4½
The Moidore	6	22	1	9	3
The Half-moidore	3	11	0	14	8
The Quarter-moidore	1	17½	0	7	4
The Quadruple-pistole	17	8	3	13	0
The Spanish, or French Double-pistole	8	16	1	16	6
The Spanish, or French Pistole	4	8	0	18	3
The Spanish, or French Half-pistole	2	4	0	9	2
The Spanish, or French Quarter-pistole	1	2	0	4	7
The French Lewis-d'or of the new species	5	5	1	2	0
The French Half-Lewis-d'or	2	14½	0	11	0
The French Quarter Lewis-d'or	1	7¼	0	5	6
The piece of new gold coin of Portugal	18	10½	3	17	8
The Half-piece, ditto	9	5¼	1	18	10
The Quarter-piece, ditto	4	14½	0	19	6
The Half-quarter, ditto	2	7½	0	9	10
The Sixteenth, ditto	1	3½	0	4	11

Two-pence for a grain, one penny for half a grain, and one half-penny for one quarter of a grain, to be allowed on any such deficiency in the weight of any of the aforesaid pieces of gold; which, though of standing weight are hereby ordered to pass, and to be taken as if they weighed down the scale.

This regulation was no doubt intended for the good of this kingdom and calculated with no other view than to preserve and keep at home the silver species current in this country: but experience has taught us, that those who laid that scheme were mistaken in its consequence. We have indeed guineas in greater plenty, than we had before, but generally so light, that whoever has an hundred of them, and thinks to have one hundred and thirteen pounds fifteen shillings intrinsic value, will often find, if he weighs them, that he has not in fact above the value of an hundred and six pounds five shillings, at a moderate medium; whereas, if before the reduction of the gold he had an hundred moidors of full weight, he was sure to have one hundred and fifty pounds, or at least one hundred and forty-four pounds eleven shillings and eight pence, if according to Sir Isaac Newton's Tables, they be intrinsically worth twenty-seven shillings and nine pence English, which in Irish currency is twenty-nine shillings and eleven pence, (though they are by this proclamation reduced to twenty-nine shillings and three pence, he could therefore lose but five pounds eight shillings and four pence on his hundred and fifty pounds, whereas he loses seven pound ten shillings on his hundred light guineas; and thirty-four pound twelve shillings and three pence (at a moderate medium) of the real, intrinsic value of the silver, if he keeps one hundred and fifty pounds in such English shillings and six-penny-pieces, as are mostly current at present here.

The scheme proposed by some others, was, as I take it, much better adapted to the circumstance of Ireland; I mean the raising the value of the silver species formerly current in this kingdom to a par with that of the gold; had this been done, it would have prevented the melting of silver, which is daily wrought into plate or transported abroad: This mischief is grown to such a pitch, that a new, or well preserved crown or half-crown is become a great rarity, even among the curious: They no sooner appear than they disappear. What silver is now left, is some English money, not worth melting, shilling pieces hardly worth nine pence or ten pence, and six-penny pieces not worth a groat.

Geo. II.
A. D.
1737.

This must continue to be the case, while silver is under rated here, and passes at a less value than in England, where bullion is sold at a medium at five shillings and six pence the ounce, and here among the goldsmiths at five shillings and nine pence, so that at a moderate computation, there is at least two shillings and six pence, or two shillings and eight pence profit in about every fifteen ounces of bullion sent abroad, which together with the under-valuation of the crown silver, makes a difference of seven pound one shilling and nine pence per cent. "All these difficulties," says Mr. Prior in his excellent discourse on coins, "would be effectually removed, by having a mint established in Ireland, and several species of copper, silver and gold coins made of such a standard, weights and value compared with the English as should be thought proper and convenient for us."

From what has been said before it appears that from the year 872, down to the reign of Edward VI. there were mints, and money coined in Ireland for the service of the kingdom: "since therefore," as another very judicious author observes, "it was not deemed contrary to the interest of England, to allow the people of Ireland the benefit of a mint, when the kings of England made a profit by their duty of seignorage; it cannot be supposed, that a mint in Ireland will at any time interfere with the interest of England, when the expences of coinage is defrayed by the public, and no profit ariseth from it to the king's treasury. On the other hand, it evidently appears to be the interest of England, that there should be a mint in Ireland; for then the people of Ireland would not be under a necessity of bringing over English coin, which they are now forced to do, notwithstanding the severe laws made in England to prohibit the exportation of it." King Charles I. as we have seen before had resolved to have a mint erected in Dublin, but was prevented by the civil wars in England; and king Charles II. granted a patent for coining here small pieces of silver: when therefore the necessity of a mint in this kingdom and its real advantage for carrying on our linen manufacture is well considered, "it is to be hoped" that his most gracious majesty, out of affection for his faithful people of Ireland, will be pleased to grant them this favor, which doth not in the least interfere with the interest of any of his other subjects, since it

* T. Prior on Coins, p. 61.

† Bindon on Trade, p. 241.

‡ Three thousand pound a year. Carte's life

of Ormond, vol. i. Appendix, No. 38.

§ T. Prior, p. 62.

Gzo. II. " wholly relates to ourselves, and is desired only to remove the many inconveniencies
 A. D. " we suffer in our domestic commerce."
 1737.
 1748.

From what has been said in the foregoing sheets, the judicious and unprejudiced reader may draw a fair and just parallel between the former and present state of the coin in this kingdom, between the tyrannical, arbitrary government of some former reigns, and the lenity and justice of the present under the illustrious house now on the throne: under the one every act of government was done *ex motu proprio*, by the prince's own will; under the present, what has been done with regard to the current coin of Ireland, was by a gracious condescension to the humble request and representation of the lords justices and council; as every other act of government has been done with the concurrence of the lords and commons in parliament assembled. Our religious and civil liberties are maintained, and protected, and law and justice administered to every subject without distinction. And every subject, who hath any sense of his own happiness, or any regard for that of his posterity, will doubtless join in the most sincere and hearty wishes, that the reign of his Majesty King GEORGE may be long and prosperous; and that the invaluable blessing of an established legal constitution, by which these kingdoms are distinguished amongst all the nations of the earth, may be continued down, as long as time shall last, under the government of a prince of his Majesty's Royal House.

A D D E N D A.

SINCE the foregoing sheets were printed, I have seen in a curious collection of coins, in the possession of Ralph Howard, Esq; a Half-groat of Henry VIII. with the arms of England on one side, and on the other, the crowned harp between the letters H. A. See Plate VIII. Numb. 172; the Half-crown struck by the rebels in 1642. Same Plate Numb. 173; and the Farthing coined by Sir Thomas Armstrong, in 1660. Numb. 174.

A P P E N D I X.

De Monetâ nigrâ.

No. I. **R**EX custodi terræ suæ Hiberniæ, vel ejus locum tenenti, salutem. Licet Rymer's
nuper, dato nobis intelligi quod quidam homines Hibernici, quam nigram monetam, Act. Pub.
vocatam Turneys, in partibus Hiberniæ fabricari fecerunt, & tam ipsi, quam alii, vol. v. p.
per monetam illam mercandisas, victualia, & alia emunt, vendunt, & exercent, ad 113.
deteriorationem monetæ nostræ de sterlingo, & nostri dampnum non modicum & An. 1339.
præjudiciū manifestum,——vobis mandaverimus quod in civitatibus, burgis, villis
mercatoriis, & aliis locis, in terrâ prædictâ, publicè proclamari, & ex parte nostrâ
firmiter inhiberi faceretis, ne quis mercandisas, victualia, seu alia quæcumque per
prædictam nigram monetam, emere, vendere, seu exercere præsumeret, sub foris
factura monetæ & rerum earundem,——Quia tamen, ex parte communitatis terræ
nostræ prædictæ, accepimus quòd prætextu inhibitionis & proclamationis prædic-
tarum, maximum dampnum, tam nobis, quàm hominibus terræ nostræ prædictæ,
pro defectu monetæ de sterlingo, eo quod dicta nigra moneta ibidem ex causâ præ-
dictâ currere non potest, de die in diem evenit, & majora, processu temporis, evenire
formidantur, nisi super hoc celerius apponatur remedium opportunum. Volentes
utilitati nostræ & hominum nostrorum terræ prædictæ prospicere in hac parte, vobis
mandamus quòd habito cum illis de concilio nostro partium illarum avisamento
pleniori si vobis constare poterit quòd majus commodum nobis & hominibus terræ
prædictæ accresceret si hujusmodi nigra moneta ibidem currat, quàm inhibitiō &
proclamatio prædictæ teneantur, tunc in civitatibus, burgis, villis mercatoriis, &
aliis locis in terrâ prædictâ, tam infra libertates, quàm extra, ubi expedire videritis:—
Publicè proclamari faciatis quòd dicta nigra moneta in terrâ prædictâ currat, & ea
ibidem utatur quousque de aliâ monetâ pro terrâ prædictâ provideri fecerimus,
vel aliter inde duxerimus demandandum proclamatione & inhibitione prædictis;
per vos juxta mandatum nostrum prædictum vobis prius directum factis non
obstantibus.

Teste Edwardo duce Cornubiæ, & comite Cestriæ, filio regis carissimo, custode Angliæ, apud Berkhamstede, 12^o die Junii,—per ipsum custodem & concilium.

Rymer,
vol. v. p.
104.

No. II. De cuneis in Hiberniam mittendis. Rex dilecto clerico suo Johanni de Flete custodi cambii nostri Londoniæ, salutem. Cum per nos & concilium nostrum, ordinatum existat, quod moneta denariorum sterlingorum, obolorum & ferlingorum ad Cambium nostrum in Hiberniâ apud Dublinum pro nostro & populi nostri partium illarum commodo fabricetur, per quod nuper vobis mandavimus, quod octo paria Cuneorum pro denariis sterlingorum, octo paria Cuneorum pro obolis, & octo paria Cuneorum pro ferlingis, apud dictum Cambium nostrum Londoniæ sine dilatione fieri & ea attornato dilecti clerici nostri magistri Johannis Rees, thesaurarii nostri Hiberniæ in hac parte, pro fabricatione denariorum, obolorum, & ferlingorum prædictorum liberati faceretis, ad dictas partes Hiberniæ, ex causâ prædictâ, eidem thesaurario nostro deferenda, vobis mandamus quod si Cunea prædicta præfato attornato nondum liberaveritis, tunc eadem octo paria Cuneorum pro denariis sterlingorum, octo paria Cuneorum pro obolis, & octo paria Cuneorum pro ferlingis, habetis in Cancellariâ nostrâ die Jovis proximo futuro ubicunque tunc fuerit præfate attornato ibidem in præsentâ Cancellarii nostri liberanda; & hoc nullatenus omittatis & de custubus, quas in facturâ & impressione eorundem Cuneorum rationabiliter apposueritis, cum illos sciverimus vobis in compoto vestrâ debitam allocationem habere faciemus.

Teste Edwardo duce Cornubiæ & comite Cestriæ, filio nostro Carissimo, custode Angliæ, apud Kenyngton primo die Martii.—per concilium.

Rot. Tur.
Berming.
25^o H. 6.
An. 1447.

No. III. At a parliament held at Trymme, the Friday next after the Epiphany, before John earl of Shrewsbury, the king's lieutenant.

Cap. 22. For that, the clipping of the coin of our sovereign lord the king, hath caused divers men in this land of Ireland, to counterfeit the same coin, to the great damage and destruction of the said land, and is like to do more hereafter. Wherefore it is ordained and agreed by authority of this present parliament, that no money so clipped be received in any place of said land, from the first day of May next to come, nor the money called O Reily's money, or any other unlawful money, so that one coyn be ready at the said day to make the coyn.

Ibidem.
35^o H. 6.
An. 1457.

No. IV. At a parliament held at Naas, the Friday next after the Feast of All-Saints, before Thomas Fitz-Maurice, Earl of Kildare, deputy to Richard duke of York the king's lieutenant.

Cap. 12. As Ireland is greatly impoverished by the daily exportation of silver plate, broken silver, bullion and wedges of silver, and by the great clipping of the coin by Irish enemies, and English rebels, by which the coin is diminished and greatly impaired, and the Irish money called the O Reily's daily encreases; it is therefore enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that every person who carries broken silver, bullion, or wedges of silver out of this land, shall pay for custom to the king twelve pence for every ounce; except lords and messengers going to England

upon business of the public, who may carry plate with them, according to their degrees.

No. V. At a parliament held at Drogheda before Richard duke of York, lord Bot. Tur. lieutenant: Birm. 23 H. VI. An. 1460.

Cap. 2. Enacted, That the English Noble of lawful weight shall pass in Ireland at the value of eight shillings and four pence; the Half-Noble at four shillings and two pence, the Quadrant-d'Or of the same coyn and weight at two shillings and one penny. The Gross of London, York and Calais, not clipped within the extreme circle, at five pence, the Demy-Gross at two pence half-penny, the Denier at one penny farthing; the Gross clipped at four pence, the Demy-Gross clipped at two pence, the Denier clipped at one penny. And as not only the dutchy of Normandy, but also the dutchy of Guienne, when they were under the obedience of the realm of England, yet were no less separate from the laws and statutes of England, and had also coynes for themselves different from the coyne of England; so Ireland, though it be under the obedience of the same realm, is nevertheless separate from it, and from all the laws and statutes of it, only such as are there by the lords spiritual and temporal and commons freely admitted and accepted of in parliament or great council, by which a proper coyne separate from the coyne of England was with more convenience agreed to be had in Ireland under two forms; the one of the weight of half-quarter of an ounce troy weight, on which shall be imprinted on one side a lyon, and on the other side a crown, called an Irlandes d'argent, to pass for the value of one penny sterling; the other of vij. ob. of troy weight, having imprinted on one part of it a crown, and on the other part a cross, called a Patrick, of which eight shall pass for one Denier. That a Gross be made of the weight of three deniers sterling, and to pass for four deniers sterling, which shall have imprinted on it on one side a crown, and on the other side a cross like the coyne of Calais, bearing about the cross in writing the name of the place where the coyne is made; and that every person, who brings bullion to the mint, ought to receive and have for every ounce of silver, troy weight, nine of the said Grosses of the value of three deniers. That the coyne called the Jack be hereafter of no value and void, and that the above coynes be made in the castles of Dublin and Trymme. This act to commence on St. Patrick's day.

Adjourned to Monday after Trinity-Sunday, and then enacted; That the Rider of lawful weight pass at four shillings, the Duckat of full weight at four shillings and two pence, the Jean of full weight at four shillings and two pence, the Crown at three shillings and four pence, the Burgoigne-Noble at six shillings and eight pence, the Salute at four shillings and two pence; and if any of said gold or of the English-Noble, Demy-Noble, or Quadrant of gold, be not of full weight, that a proportionable abatement be made. As there is great variance in the receipt of the Gross, Demy-Gross and Denier, it is enacted, that the Gross and Demy-gross having the second circle clear and not clipped, and if any writing appears above the said circle in two quarters, that then the Gross shall pass for five pence, and the Demy-Gross

for two pence half-penny, and that all deniers, that pass in England, shall pass here for one penny farthing; that the Denier with the cross called Irlandes be utterly void, and that in lieu of it a penny be struck in silver, having the weight of the fourth part of the New-Gross of Ireland to be imprinted, and inscribed as the New-Gross.

Rot. Tur. No. VI. At a parliament held at Dublin, before Thomas Fitz-Maurice earl of Birming. Kildare, lord deputy.

1Edw.IV. An.1460. Cap. 4. Enacted, that a coyne of silver be struck, *i. e.* le Maille of silver, and Quadrant, and that the said coyne bear the same writing and crown as the New Denier bears, and that they be made according to the rate of the new Denier; and that the said coyne be made in the castle of Dublin, and that the said Maille and Quadrant be taken and received in said Land.

Ibidem, No. VII. At a parliament held in Dublin, before Sir Rowland Fitz Eustace, lord 2Edw.IV. Portlester, deputy to George duke of Clarence. An.1461.

Cap. 6. As great variances have arose between the king's subjects for want of small coyne for change, *viz.* the Denier and Quadrant; it is enacted, that a coyne of copper mixed with silver be made within the castle of Dublin, having on one side the print of a cross, and on the other part a crown, of which four shall be taken for a penny; and that the said coyne shall have graven, within the circumference of the said cross, the name of the place where it is made, and on the other part suns and roses in the circumference of the said crown, and that no sum shall be struck exceeding an hundred marks, and provided that it be of no manner of prejudice to the patent granted to Germyn Lynch.

Ibidem, No. VIII. At a parliament held at Weys, (Wexford) before Thomas earl of 3Edw.IV. Desmond, deputy to George duke of Clarence. An.1463.

Cap. 32. An act for confirming letters patents made to Germyn Lynch of London, goldsmith, for coining money, the substance of which letter patent is as follows, *viz.* *Edwardus*, &c. we have ordained Germyn Lynch of London, goldsmith, warden and master-worker of our moneys and coynes within our castle of Dublin, and within our castle of Trymme, and graver of the punsons of the said monie and coynes to occupy by himself or deputy during his life, giving him and them authority to make all our said moneys and coines, according to the tenor and effect of our estatute or estatutes by authority of a parliament holden at Drogheda before Richard late duke of Yorke then lord lieutenant, on the Friday after the Feast of St. Blase the bishop, 38 Hen. VI.—We give full power to the said Germyn Lynch and his deputy, during his life, to make all our said money and coines, and to do all things needful thereto within the town of Galway, that is, to make a piece of silver running at and of the value of four Deniers, whereof one hundred and twenty shall go to the pound of troy, and to the ounce of the same ten; whereof the master to answer us of one plate of every such pound so made for the coinage, and the merchant one hundred and fourteen plates, and the master to have the other five plates to his use.—And also another piece of silver coine, of the value of two deniers, whereof two hundred and

forty to go to the pound, or to the ounce of the same twenty, with proportionable allowance as before:—Also another piece of silver coyne of the value of one Denier, whereof four hundred and eighty go to the pound, and to the ounce of the same forty, with proportionable allowance as before; and that the ounce of every of the aforesaid money coyned, shall be departed in like form after the said allowance and rate.—Also eight pieces of brass running at and of the value of one penny of our said silver.—That all the aforesaid moneys and coynes of silver and brass shall be imprinted and bear scripture, and be of the weight, allay and fyness, as is specified in the said statute or statutes.—We give full power to the said Germyn or his deputy or deputies during his life, to make and strike in the said castles and town, and every of them, four pieces of brass or copper running at one penny of our said silver, to be imprinted with the figure of a bishop's head, and a scripture of this word *Patrick* about the same head on the one side, and with a cross with this word *Salvator* then about on the other side, and to make as much or as little of every sort of the said moneys or coynes of brass or copper, as he shall think to be profitable and good.—And we grant to the said Germyn all the said moneys and coynes of brass and copper to his proper use, in sustentation and finding of our labourers about the said moneys at his charges, free and quit, without any thing therefore paying to us during his said life.—The master of the mint to account for our share of the profits of the said coinage to such person, as shall be assigned by the lieutenant or other governor of our said land, and not in the exchequer.—That the weight and quantity of the said moneys of brass or copper be devised and made continually by the discretion of the master.—As the said silver moneys may not be always made according to the right estandard, because some time, in default of the said master or workers, the said money of silver may be made too much or too little in weight or in allay, or in the one or in the other, by six penny-weight in every of the said pounds of troy; which six penny-weight shall be called remedy for the said master, and if such default be found in any of the said pounds upon the due assen (*trial or assay*) before the deliverance over of the said six penny-weight called remedy, that then it shall be challenged by the merchant, and not to be delivered, and then the said master shall reforge the said moneys so found defective, at his proper costs, till it be made able according to the ordinance.—We grant power to the said Germyn to make all manner of pions, screws, graves, and other instruments necessary to the said minsters at London or elsewhere, for which instruments to be made, we grant to him ten marks yearly to be received by his own hand out of the profits of our said moneys arising by such mints, to be allowed him on account.—That he shall make a privy sign on every piece of silver money.—Power to take at all times as many labourers yearly as shall be necessary.—And if any labourer refuses to work at the said mints, that the master or his deputy shall arrest such, and put them in prison, till he labours as desired.—All officers minsters commanded to assist the said Germyn in the execution of the premisses.—Grant to all merchants repairing to any of the said mints, free entry and issue in and out of the said castles and town. Dated 6 Augusti primo Regni per

Regem autoritate Parliamenti.—It is enacted, that the said Germyn shall enjoy the said office, notwithstanding any resumption, act, or ordinance to the contrary; and that he shall have full power to act every thing, according to the said letters patent or acts, within the cities of Waterford and Limerick during his life, in the same manner as is ordained to be done within the castles of Dublin and Trym, and that he shall make such scripture on the said coyne of silver as ensues, viz. on the part or side of the cross, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*, and on the side of the crown, *Edwardus Dei gratiâ Dominus Hibernie*. Cap. 57. Being enacted, by a parliament held at Drogheda, An. 38 Hen. VI. before Richard duke of Yorke, lord lieutenant, that the Gross, the Denier, the Demy-denier and the Quadrant, should be struck within the castles of Dublin and Trym. Now as the mayor, bayliffs and commons of Waterford are daily encumbered for want of small coynes for change of greater coines, it is enacted, at their petition, that the above mentioned small coynes be struck at Waterford, in a place called Dondory, alias Raynold's tower, and that they be made of the same weight, print and size as is mentioned in the said act to be done in the castles of Dublin and Trym, and that they shall bear this scripture, *Civitas Waterford*.—Cap. 57. As the Gross, the Demy-gross, the Denier, and other coynes are greatly diminished by clipping; enacted, that no clipped money be received in payment.

Rot. Tur. No. IX. At a parliament holden in Dublin, before John earl of Worcester, deputy
Birming. to George duke of Clarence, lord lieutenant.
7Edw.IV

An. 1467. Cap. 7. Whereas in a parliament held before Thomas earl of Desmond, in the fifth year of the present king*, it was enacted, that the Noble of due weight should be of the value of ten shillings, the Demy-noble of five shillings, and the Quadrant of gold of two shillings and six pence, and that for laccage in weight of such pieces of gold, they should be refused; it is now enacted, that the laccage in weight in such pieces of gold shall not be a cause for refusing them; but the value of such laccage shall be paid in current silver after the rate hereafter rehearsed. Cap. 8. As Ireland is destitute of silver, and the silver there made of late is daily carried away into divers countries, and so the people of this land continually take clipped money, contrary to the statute, it is enacted, that there be a piece of silver coined called a Double, having the print of a crown on one side, with this writing, *Edwardus Dei gratiâ Dominus Hibernie*, and on the other part a sun with a rose, with this inscription about it, *Civitas Dublinie*, which shall pass in Ireland for eight deniers, and ten such pieces shall make an ounce according to the rightful standard of the tower of London, and twelve such ounces shall make the pound according to the standard aforesaid, and there shall be in every pound six score such pieces of the weight of the said country. Also there shall be made another piece of silver called a Gross, having the print and scripture aforesaid, which shall pass in Ireland for four deniers; and twenty such pieces shall go to an ounce of the said country, and

* This Act could not be found.

two hundred and forty such pieces shall make the pound of the rightful standard aforesaid: of which coynes every merchant shall have for an ounce sterling of silver six shillings, and the king shall have the residue, paying the master and workmen for their labour. And as the said silver money cannot be continually made of equal standard, because sometimes, in default of the master or workmen, they may be too great or too little in weight or allay, or in one or in the other, in weight of three deniers in every twenty shillings, the which weight of three deniers shall be called remedy for the said master.—Also that there be a piece made of two deniers, or half the gross of the proportions aforesaid; of which forty such pieces shall go to the ounce besides the allay.—Also that a piece be made called the Denier, containing the half of the piece of two deniers, eighty of which shall go to the ounce besides the allay.—Half-deniers and farthings to be made according to the same proportions, *mutatis mutandis*, with the like provisions: and that the print of the half-denier and farthing be made according to the print of the denier, with a scripture as long as the master and workmen can make them.—That the said moneys and coynes be made in the castles of Dublin and Trym, the cities of Waterford and Limerick, and the towns of Drogheda, Galway and Carlingford; and that no body shall after Easter next receive or pay any manner of silver coyne or money, but the coyne or money aforesaid, and that all other silver coynes or money in Ireland be from the feast of Easter next damned and annulled; and if any person or persons receives or pays otherwise, that such payment shall be adjudged felony in the payer as in the receiver.

No. X. At a parliament held in Dublin, before Thomas Fitz-Morice earl of Kildare, lord justice.

Rot. Tur.
Birming.
10Ed. IV
An. 1470.

Cap. 4. It having been enacted, *An. 7 Edw. IV.* That a coin of silver be made called the Double, the Demy-double or Grosse, the Demy-grosse, the Denier, and the Demy-denier, to pass through all Ireland, by which the people have been so greatly impoverished, that many of them have given up their houses and avoided the land, and all merchandises, and especially victuals have grown excessive dear, from which many people are like to perish through want. It is therefore enacted, that the master or masters of the coinage shall have power to make and strike within the castles of Dublin and Trym, and the town of Drogheda, five sorts of silver coynes according to the fyness of the coynes struck in the tower of London, *i. e.* the Grosse, the Demy-grosse, the Denier, the Demy-denier, and the Quadrant; the Gross having on one side the print of a head crowned, with this writing, *Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ*, or the name of any other king for the time being, and on the other part the print of a cross with the pelets according to the gross made in Caleys, bearing in the circumference of the cross in writing the place where the said gross is made and coined, and in the borders of the gross this writing, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*; of which grosses eleven shall make the ounce of troy weight; and every of them not clipped to pass for four deniers; the demy-gross to be made in like manner as the gross, with the same inscriptions, as they can be comprehended in it, according to the discretion of the master and graver of the said coynes, of which demy-grosses twenty-two pieces shall make the ounce, and every of them not clipped

shall pass for two deniers; (the like in the other proportions) and that the fifth part of every pound be struck in small pieces, that is to say, Two-deniers, Deniers, Half-deniers and Quadrants. And as the said half-denier and quadrant require more labour and costs, in poising every pound, than the gross, the demy-gross and denier, it is enacted, that the master or masters for the time being may allay every ounce of the said demy-deniers and quadrants, according to a statute made in a parliament held at Trym, before Thomas earl of Desmond, the fifth of this king*. And as the said money cannot always be made to agree according to the just standard, being, in default of the master, sometimes made too great, and sometimes too small in weight or allay by four deniers in every pound, which four deniers shall be a remedy for the said master: It is enacted, that from this time to the feast of the Purification next, the Double shall be taken and pass for four deniers, the Demy-double for two deniers, the Demy-gross for one denier, and the Denier for half a denier; and after the said feast, the said double, demy-double, demy-gross, denier and demy-denier to be damned and not taken for a coyne†, and whoever pays or receives in payment any clipped money after Christmas next, that he shall be adjudged and taken as an attainted traitor.

Rot. Tur. No. XI. At a parliament held at Dublin, before Thomas Fitz-Morice earl of
Birming. Kildare, deputy to George duke of Clarence.
11Ed. IV
An. 1472.

Cap. 6. Enacted, that all Grosses shall pass in Ireland as they did in the days of the kings Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. in England and Calais, the same being not clipped, every piece of them at the value of five deniers, the Demy-gross at two deniers and a half, the Denier at one denier and farthing; the Noble of gold being of full weight at ten shillings, the Scute (the Crown) and Quadrant of full weight according to the Noble; and if any of the said nobles, scutes, or quadrants, be defective in weight, then the debtors shall pay the defect in silver, and if any refuses to receive the said coynes he shall lose his debt.—Cap. 65. William Crumpe, merchant, and Thomas Barby, merchant, were by letters patent, dated the 18th of October 10th Regis, constituted masters of the coinage in the castles of Dublin and Trym, and the town of Drogheda, to hold the said office to them and the survivor of them for their lives. Barby died; and the office survized to Crump. The king, by the letters patent dated the eighth of December the said 10th Regni, constituted Patrick Keyn, of Dublin, goldsmith, surveyor and under master of the said coyne in the said places, and receiver of the money called Doubles, brought by the merchants into the said places according to the manner, form and weight as prescribed in a statute made in that case; by force of which grant to the said Patrick, he, as surveyor, undermaster and maker of the said coins, has struck much of the said coyne not of weight, nor of good allay, of his own authority, and against the will of the said William Crump, by colour of the letters

* This Act, as I observed before, could not be found.

† This must be understood of the coins struck by virtue of the act 7 Edw. IV.

patent made to him. Upon this matter set forth by petition by the said Crump, it was enacted, that he should have the king's letters patent of pardon of all treasons, offences, challenges or impeachments, which the king has against him, as master of the said coinage, and that he shall not be troubled on account of the said money being struck, against his will, under weight and not of sufficient allay.

No. XII. At a parliament held at Naas, before Thomas Fitz-Morice earl of Kildare, deputy to George duke of Clarence, and thence prorogued to Dublin. Rot. Tur.
Birming.
12 Ed. IV
An. 1472.

Cap. 11. There being divers coiners in the city of Cork, the towns of Yoghil, Kinsale and Killmallock, viz. John Fannin, John Crone, Patrick Martel, William Synnot, Mortagh O Haurighan, Nicholas Rewy, and others, who make false coines without authority, only the said John Fannin shews letters patent which are not of record, to the great damage of the said city, towns and counties; it is enacted, that if the said coiners do not appear before the deputy in parliament the first day of the next prorogation or adjournment, that they shall be attainted as traitors, and their lands, tenements, goods and chattels forfeited; and, that it shall be lawful for James earl of Desmond, the mayors of Cork and Yoghill, and the soverains of Kinsale and Killmallock, to apprehend them and execute the law on their persons as traitors attainted; and that no body shall maintain, support, harbour or succour them, under the penalty of forfeiting their goods and chattels, lands and tenements to the king, and their bodies to be at his will; and all letters patent shewn by the said coiners to be void.

No. XIII. In the same parliament prorogued and held in Dublin.

Cap. 60. Enacted, that the king's coyne, i. e. the Gross, the Demy-gross, the Denier, the Demy-denier, and the Quadrant, be struck for the time to come within the castle of Dublin only, and in no other place within the four counties of Dublin, Meath, Kildare and Uriel, and in no other place in Ireland; of which Grosses xiv shall make the ounce, xxviii Demy-grosses, lvi Deniers, cxii Demy-deniers, and ccxxiv Quadrants, according to the just standard of the tower of London, and to be made according to the fineness and allay of the said Tower. Every Gross to be received at the rate of four deniers, and the others in proportion. The king, the master, and the workmen to receive for the coinage three deniers in every ounce of grosses, four deniers in every ounce of the other sorts, and no more: and so to remain to every merchant bringing bullion or plate to the mint four shillings and five pence for every ounce of grosses, and four shillings and four pence for every ounce of the other sorts.—That Germyn Lynch, goldsmith, be master of the said mint during good behaviour, he answering for all manner of workmen whom he shall bring into the mint.—That this act be not prejudicial to William Crump in the fee granted to him upon the said mint.—That Philip Brentwood be one of the principal workmen under the said master, if he may be had at reasonable wages.—That Christopher Fox be one of the principal deputy-comptrollers of the said mint, if he may be had at reasonable wages, by the assent of the chief comptroller.—That the Ibidem,
13 Ed. IV
An. 1473.

justice of the c. b. and the baron of the exchequer have power to enquire and determine upon the said master and workmen, as well by examination, as inquisition, as the king may do in his ch. place.—That no pardon be available for the said workmen and master, unless granted by parliament or by the governor of Ireland by advice of the council.—And that the said master shall make the fifth part of the bullion coming to the said mint, to be coined into small coyne, *i. e.* into pieces of two deniers, denier, half denier, and quadrant under the penalty of ten pound.—Not to be prejudicial to the right of Maurice Burghill and Patrick Keyne, when they had the office of master of the mint.

Rot. Tur. No. XIV. At a parliament held at Dublin, before William bishop of Meath, de-
Birming.
15 Ed. IV. puty to George duke of Clarence.

An. 1475. *Cap.* 5. As a great deal of coyns called the Grosses, the Demy-grosses, and the Denier is not passed in this kingdom to the great damage of it, it is enacted, that the coin called the Gross made in the reigns of Edward III. Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V. and Henry VI. not clipped, shall be of the value of six deniers, the Demy-gross not clipped of the value of three deniers, and the Denier not clipped of the value of three half deniers. The Gross made in England in the time of the present king, not clipped, shall pass for five deniers, the Demy-gross for two deniers and a half, and the Denier for one denier and a quadrant; and all the moneys struck in Ireland to be of the same value as they now are.—That all the mints in Ireland shall cease, except those of Dublin, Drogheda and Waterford, and that the masters of the said mints shall, out of all the bullion brought to them, make no more than the third part thereof into, Two-deniers, Deniers, Half-deniers and Quadrants, under the penalty of ten pound, *toties quoties*.—*Cap.* 7. Liquefaction of bullion and other silver, being a great mischief to the common people, defamation to the mint, and oftentimes a destruction to the mint-masters; it is enacted, that no silver brought to the mint to be melted or struck, shall be so done, but only by the masters of the mint, or such person for whom the master will answer, and whoever doth to the contrary, shall forfeit all such goods, half to the king, and half to the master of the mint, and shall not be pardonable but by parliament.

Ibidem,
16 Ed. IV. No. XV. At a parliament held at Drogheda, before William bishop of Meath,
An. 1476. deputy to George duke of Clarence, from thence adjourned to Dublin.

Cap. 21. The silver coin lately made in Cork, Youghill, Limerick, and other places in Munster, except Waterford, being neither lawful in itself, nor of lawful weight and allay; it is enacted, that the same be utterly damned and taken in no payment.—*Cap.* 23. Enacted, that the piece of gold called a Royal be taken in Ireland for thirteen shillings and four deniers, and the Demy-royal after the same rate; the piece of gold called the Angel at eight shillings and four deniers, the Demy-angel in proportion, and every lesser piece of the same gold coins to pass at the same rate; and as some of them be insufficient in weight, that they be made good in current silver.—That the old Noble of gold pass at twelve shillings, and every lesser piece according to that rate, the insufficiency of any of them to be amended as aforesaid.—

Cap. 43. To give a currency to forreign coyne imported into Ireland, it is enacted, that the Rider fine and good shall pass for five shillings of Irish silver, the Ducat five shillings, the Leo five shillings, the Crown five shillings, the Crusado five shillings, the Burgoin Noble ten shillings, the Half and Quarter in proportion, the Salute five shillings, and if any of the said gold want in weight of the rightful standard, so much to be abated in payment as it wants.—Proclamation to be made to give a currency to these coins.

No. XVI. At a parliament held at Trym, before Henry lord Grey, deputy to George duke of Clarence, from thence adjourned to Drogheda, and thence to Dublin. Rot. Tur.
Birming.
18 Ed. IV
An. 1478.

Cap. 13. Enacted, that for the time to come the liberty of Meath be commenced, restored, used, exercised, held and continued, with all manner of liberties, franchises, usages, free-customs, court-leets, offices, and officers, and all manner of every other thing belonging to the same in antient times, in as ample a manner, as was exercised and occupied in the time of Richard late duke of Yorke, or his noble progenitors lords of Meath; and that Henry lord Grey, lord deputy, shall enjoy, use, hold, exercise, and carry unto use and execution by himself or his deputy, the said liberty, by the name of senéschal and treasurer of the said liberty of Meath, in as ample a manner and form, with all manner of rights, commodities and profits, as ever any seneschal or treasurer heretofore occupied and enjoyed the same; and that all manner of acts, statutes, ordinances, or grants, heretofore made to avoid or destroy the said liberty, be of no effect in law. And further this act confirms a grant, made by the king, of the office of seneschal and treasurer of Meath to the said Henry, dated at Westminster the third day of March in the seventeenth year of his reign during the life of the said Henry: And by this act the said Henry, by himself or his officers, may for the future strike and coin all manner of coins of silver within the castle of Trym, according to such fyness and allay, as in the statute for that purpose is provided.

No. XVII. At a parliament held at Dublin, before Gerald earl of Kildare, deputy to the king's son, Richard duke of Yorke, lord lieutenant. Ibidem,
19 Ed. IV
An. 1479.

Cap. 1. Enacted, that Germyn Lynch, master of the minters, have power to strike coyne at four shillings and ten shillings per ounce, rendering to the merchant four shillings and four pence, and to king and workmen six deniers according to the finess and standard of the tower of London; provided that the part of the coin belonging to the king and workmen be made and paid in grosses, and provided that the king do not countermand the premisses.

No. XVIII. At a parliament held at Dublin, before Gerald earl of Kildare, deputy to Edward the king's eldest son, lord lieutenant, and from thence adjourned to Naas. Rot. Tur.
Birming.
1 Ric. III
An. 1483.

Cap. 7. As this act is partly destroyed by time or vermin, all that can be gathered from it relating to coins is, That the coin struck within the castle of Dublin, or elsewhere in Ireland, by the king's officers according to the print described, (which

cannot be read) shall pass and be current among all the subjects; and that the refuser shall forfeit twelve deniers for every half denier refused, one half to the king and the other half to the prosecutor; and if any cities or towns refuse them, the said forfeiture shall go half to the king, and half to be employed on the murrage and paviage of the said city or town; the offenders to be committed to prison untill payment. If the inhabitants, citizens or burgesses of Waterford, Wexford, Ross, Kilkenny, Dungarvan, Yoghill, Cork, Kinsale, Kilmallock, Limerick, Galway, Athenry, or elsewhere within those parts of said land, be proved to offend in the premises, they shall forfeit twenty pounds; and that the citizens and burgesses of such cities and towns so refusing shall lose their franchises, untill they have made fine to the king for such their contempts.—That the act do not extend to the citizens of Dublin or burgesses of Drogheda.—*Cap. 8.* As the weal publique has been for these three years past greatly damaged, for that the king's mints for striking of silver coyn have not been ordered for the profit of the subject, by which all foreigners, as Portugals, Spaniards, Britons, Frenchmen and Flemings, practising merchandise, have used to bring in the coin of their countries, and other bullion, to be coined in the king's mint here, to the great profit of the said foreigners in exchange, and damage of the king's subjects. And as it hath happened thereby, that the common people cannot have small coins for buying and selling or paying small sums to servants, labourers and artificers, by which many of the inhabitants have and are about departing the land, and leaving their habitations desolate and waste, and the inconvenience and damage to the public cannot be remedied by the order of that manner of mint, which was sent out of England, and limited to the weight of thirty-seven shillings and six pence for every pound of troy-weight of London, to be used in this land (the rest of the preamble is destroyed) It is therefore enacted, that it shall be lawful for the master of the mint for the time being, to strike and make four manner of silver coynes or moneys, *i. e.* Grosses, Demy-grosses, Deniers and Demy-deniers, in in such manner and in such places, as is ordained by a statute lately made in a parliament held on Monday after the Feast of St. Catherine, the tenth of king Edward IV. and that the said four manner of coins, so to be struck, be made of such fineness and allay with all such remedies in the weight of every twenty shillings for the master and workmen, as is ordered by a parliament in the twelfth of the said king. The Gross, the Demy-gross, the Denier and Demy-denier, to have according to the king's commandment, the print on the one side of the arms of England with a cross trefoile in every fine, with this inscription, *Ricardus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ Dominus Hiberniæ*, and on the other side three crowns, one above the other, with a cross trefoil in every fine, bearing in the circumference of the same the name of the place, where in form aforesaid it shall be lawfully coined: of which grosses to be made and coined two hundred and twenty-five pieces with the aforesaid remedies shall make the pound of troy weight, every one of them to pass for four deniers, and the smaller coins in the like proportion, with the like inscription, as far as the same can be comprehended therein by the master and gravers at their discretion; and for

the ease of the common people, the fifth part of such coin to be struck in small pieces, *i. e.* in Demy-grosses, Deniers and Demy-deniers. That the master, in presence of the controulers, may receive their stuff and all lawful bullion brought to the mint in cups, spoons, and other waste, the merchant to receive back for every ounce of bullion four shillings and six pence, the master two deniers, and the residue of every ounce to go to the king.—*Cap.* 9. The profits of the mint, granted to the earl of Kildare, in consideration of the charges he is at in the government, during the time he continues in it.—*Cap.* 13. An act for breaking all counterfeit money, and that all letters patent and acts, made in behalf of Germyn Lynch to be master of the said mint, shall be void.

No. XIX. *Super monetâ novâ in Hybernâ cudendâ.*

This indenture made the three and twentieth daye of Aprill, in the three and fortith yere of the raigne of oure soveraigne Ladye Elizabeth, by the grace of God, queene of Englande, France, and Irlande, defender of the faith; &c. betweene our said soveraigne ladye the Queene's majestie of the one partie, and Sir George Caryl knight, treasurer at warre, and vice-treasurer and general receiver of her majesties revenues in her highness realme of Irlande of the other party, witnesseth, that, whereas her majestie, by reason of the longe and chargeable warres continued within her highnes realme of Ireland, hath bene driven to send greate sommes of her highnes sterlinge money of the standard of Englande into the said realme of Irlande, for the payment of her armye there and for other services, and whereas, in and by one statute made in the parliament holden at Westminster in the third yere of kinge Henrye the seventh, yt was enacted amongst other thinges, that every marchant of Ireland, that shulde bringe any marchandizes, into this realme should ymploye the money receaved for the same marchandizes, his reasonable expences deducted, upon the commodities of this land, or ells without fraud put the same money in due payment within this realme, uppon such payne and forfeiture as by the said acte amongst other things appeareth: and whereas by one other statute made in the parliament holden at Westminster, in the nyneteenth yere of the raigne of the said late kinge Henry the seventh, it is enacted, that no manner of person should carry nor convey, nor cause to be carryed out of this realme any bullion, plate or coyne of gould or silver into Ireland, over and above the somme of sixe shillings eight pence, uppon such paynes and forfeitures, as in and by the last mentioned acte amongst other things appeareth: and whereas in the times of the raignes of her highnes late sister queene Marye, and of her highnes late brother king Edward the sixte, and the tymes of the raignes of her majesties late father and grandfather kinge Henry the eight, and kinge Henry the seventh, the moneys currant within the said realm of Ireland were under the standard of the moneys currant within the realme of England: and whereas her majestie, after the exemple of her progenitors, hath with the advice of her privye counsell, for divers greate and weightye considerations, resolved, that the moneys currant within Ireland should be under the standard of the moneys currant within England, and thereupon determined to appoint and ordaine new sorts of

Rymer's
Foedera,
vol. vi. p.
413.
43 Elizab.
An. 1601.

moneys distinct and differing from the moneys of the standard of England, which new sortes of moneys should be the proper currant money of the said realm of Ireland; and yet in such manner, and with such provision and moderation as in former tymes hath not bene done, and so as none of her highnes loving and faithful subjects shall be thereby prejudiced, for the better effecting whereof certain indentures were lately made, bearing date the—day of—in the fortith yere of her highness raigne; betwene the same our soveraigne lady of one party, and Richard Martyn of London, knighte, and Richard Martyn his sonne citizen and goldsmith of London, masters and workers of her highnes moneys within the towere of London, and realme of England, of the other partye, concerning the makinge and coyning of fyve sorts of money; that is to say, the Shillinge Irishe running and currant for twelve pence Irishe; the Halfe-shilling Irishe, running and currant for six pence; the Quarter of the shilling running and currant for three pence Irish; the Penny running and currant for one peany Irish; and the Half-penny running and currant for one half-penny Irish, as by the same indentures amongst other thinges, more fully and at large yt dothe and may appeare: by force of which indentures certayne quantities of the said severall kindes of moneys, mentioned in the said indentures, have bene made and coyned accordingly. See the remainder in the place quoted.

By the Queene.

A. D. No. XX. The Queenes most excellent majestie finding by the recordes of both
 1601. her realmes of England and Ireland, that in the tymes of divers her progenitors, kings
 20 May of England and Ireland, it hath ben accustomed, as a thing by them found conve-
 43 Elizab. nient for the good of the loyall subjects of both realms, that there should be a dif-
 Rols offic ference betwene the standards of the monies allowed to be currant in each of her said
 Dublin. realmes, and knowing by many lawes of her realme of England, and namely, by one
 16 Jac. I. made in the third yere, and one other in the nineteenth yere of her majesties grand-
 pars 5^a father of famous memorie, king Henrie the seventh, that the transportation of mo-
 nies of the coyne and standerd of England into this her realme of Ireland is severely
 forbidden, under great penalties, perceiving also by experience in some part hereto-
 fore, but more fullie and apparantlie now of late yeares since the last rebellion, which
 have caused her majestie to send great summes of money into this realme for the
 payment of her army, and for other services, that a great part of such monies into
 this realme for the payment of her army, and for other services, that a great part
 of such monies into this realme sent doe either come into the handes of her rebels
 by divers sleights and cunnings of theirs, who by the use and meanes thereof traf-
 ficking in forraine countries do releive themselves with such warlike provisions as
 they need, as with powder, lead, match, armes, and weapons of all sorts, and with
 wines, cloth and other necessities, without which they could not possibly so long
 subsist in their treasonable courses, and bring so huge calamities to the rest of her
 good subjects and wast to the whole realme; or els the said sterling monies, as well
 in respect of their goodness being better then the monies of other countries, as also
 for want of marchandise wherein to employe them with this countrie, now especially

since the rebellion doth not yeeld, and partly by marchants, strangers, and partly by the naturall marchants of the countrey using trade in forraigne countries, transported from hence into the said countries, to the inestimable losse and impoverishment as well of this realme of Ireland, as also chiefly of her majesties realme of England; hath therefore in her majesties princely wisdoms entred into consideration, with the advise of her privie counsell, how those great inconveniences might be avoided, and hath found after long and serious debateing, that the readiest way to prevent the same is to reduce the state of her monies and coynes to the antient course of her progenitors, that is, to a difference in fineness betweene the monies of the realme of England and her realme of Ireland, and for that purpose hath caused great quantities of monies, according to that antient standard which was in use for this realme in the daies of her majesties father, brother, and sister, to be coined here into severall pieces of Shillings, six pence, and pieces of three pence, stamped with her highnes armes crowned, and inscription of her usual stile on the one side, and on the other with an harpe crowned, being the arms of this her kingdome of Ireland, with the inscription, *Posui Deum adiutorem meum*. And also certayne peeces of small monies of meere copper, of Pence, Half-pence and Farthings, for the poorer sort, stamped on each side as the other, and the same monies soe coined hath sent into this her realme of Ireland, here to be established as the lawfull and currant monies of this realme, and soe to be uttered and issued as well to her armie and officers in payements to them, as also to all other her subjects of this realme and others here abiding or hither resorting for trafficke and entercourse of buying, selling, and all other manner of tradeing amongst themselves, which said coines, as well of silver of this new standard, as also of meere copper for small mony, her majestie doth hereby publish and make knowne to all men to be from henceforth, immediately after the publishing of this proclamation, her coine and monies established and authorized to be lawfull and currant within this her realme of Ireland and proper to this kingdome, and doth expressly will and command the same to be soe used, reputed and taken of all her subjects of this realme and of all others conversing here, and that they nor any of them shall not after the day of the publishing hereof refuse, reject or denie, to receive in payment of wages, fees, stipend or payments of debts, or in bargaine, or for anie other matter of trade, commerce, or dealing betweene man and man, any of said monies of either kind either mixt of silver or pure copper, but that they shall receive and accept the same at such values and rates as they are coined for, *videlicet*, Shillings, for shillings, pieces of six pence, for six pence, and soe of all other the severall kindes of this coin respectively, denouncing hereby to all such as shall be found willfully and obstinatlie to refuse the said monies of this new standard, being tendered unto them in payments, or in any dealings betweene partie and partie, that they shall for that their contempt receive such punishment as by her majesties prerogative royall may be inflicted upon persons contemning publike orders established for the universall good of this her realme; and to the end that the said monies may the better have their due course and passage

among her majesties subjects of this realme, and the good intended to both the realmes the more speedilye take place, her majestie doth hereby also publishe and make knowne that her pleasure is, that after the tenth of Julie ymmediatlye following the daie of this present proclamation, all other monies heretofore established to be currant, or used as lawfull or currant monies within this kingdome shall be decryed, adnulled and called downe; and noe other monies of what coyne, nature, mixture, allay or finenesse now used in this realme of Ireland, be they either monies of her majesties owne coyne and stampe currant in her realme of England, or of anye her predecessors, or of any forraigne realmes permitted heretofore to be currant here, shall be any longer currant within her realme of Ireland, nor offered nor received by any person here inhabiting or here conversing by any manner of dealing amongst men, but that all such monies be from that daye forward held and esteemed for bullion onely meete to be molten downe and brought unto her majesties mynt, or exchange here, as hereafter is expressed. And although that this open and publike notification of her majesties pleasure bee and ought to bee to all her subjects and others being in this realme a sufficient declaration and warrant, as well of the authorizing of the monies of the new standerd nowe appointed to be currant, and also the calling downe and decrying of all other monies whatsoever from anie use here either publike or private: yet her highnesse being a prince that in her gracious disposition doth ever affect to make all her actions cleare and allowable, in her owne nature rather than in the power of supreme authoritie, entending in this cause, to give to all persons such satisfaction as is reasonable and in the daies of her progenitors, when such monies were in use, was not offered, doth likewise hereby make knowne, that shes hath established an exchange to be had and maintained in convenient places in both her kingdomes of England and Ireland: as namelie, in Ireland, at Dublin, Corke, Galway, and Carigfergus: and in England, at London, Bristoll, and Chester. At which places shall be from henceforthe contynuallie resident officers of her appointment, and in other places also of bothe the realmes, where it shall be found convenient for the ease of her subjects: at which places, and by which officers, all her subjects of either her realmes of England and Ireland, and all other resorting unto this her realme of Ireland in trade of merchandise or otherwise, shall and may, from tyme to tyme, exchange and commute as well monies currant of England into monies of this new standerd of Ireland, as also monies of this standerd of Ireland into monies of the standerd of England, at their pleasure, in manner as is hereafter expressed. First, all persons, being either her majesties subjects or the subjects of anye pince or state in amitie with her majestie, who shall bring to anye place of exchange within Ireland any monies of the coyne of her realme of England, or of the coyne of any forraigne countries, or any plate or bullion, being of the finenesse of the standerd of England, or better, desiring to receive for the same in England monies current of England, shall receive from the officer in Ireland a bill directed to such place of exchange in England, where the partie shall desire to have his payment, by which bill he shall receive of the officer in England, not onlie in monies of England, value

for value of the monies, plate, or bullion, delivered in Ireland, but also an overplus of six pence English upon every twenty shillings English by him delivered by tale, or of eighteen pence English upon every pound weight of such monies, plate, or bullion, delivered by the partie by weight, and after the same rate for more or less in quantitie or number, delivered by weight or by tale. Item, all persons, being her majesties subjects or the subjects of anie other prince or state in amitie with her majestie, which shall have in their handes anie quantitie or summe of the monies of this new coine, appointed for her majesties realme of Ireland, and shall be desirous to receive for the same in England, monies current of England, and thereupon shall deliver to anie of her majesties officers of the Exchange in Ireland such summe of monie, as he is desirous so to exchange, he shall receive of the said officers in Ireland a bill directed to such place of exchange in England, as shall be desired by the deliverer, by which bill he shall receive of the officer in England, to whome the same is directed, the like summe of monies of England by tale, as by the bill it shall appear he shall have delivered in Ireland, wanting onely twelve pence in the pounds, so as for everie twentye shillings of the new coyne of Ireland, delivered in Ireland, he shall receive in England nynteen shillings current monie of England, and after the same rate for more or lesse in quantitie delivered in Ireland. Item, if anye such person, having in his handes, within the realme of Ireland, monies currant of England, shall be desirous to exchange the same there for monies appointed to be currant in Ireland, the officer of the Exchange there, to whome he shall bring anye summe of English monie to be exchanged, shall deliver to him, for everie twentye shillings of English monie received, one and twentye shillings of the coyne of Ireland, and after that rate for more or lesse in quantitie received. Item, if any person, being her majesties subject or otherwise, having cause to resort unto the realme of Ireland, shall be desirous to exchange monies currant of England into the monies currant of Ireland, for his use there, and shall deliver to that end anye English monies to anye of her majesties officers of exchange here in England, the said officer shall deliver unto the said person a bill, directed to such place of exchange in Ireland, as the deliverer shall requise, by which bill the officer of exchange in Ireland, receivinge the same, shall deliver to the bringer thereof, for every twentye shillings English, delivered in England, one and twentie shillings of the new coyne of Ireland in Ireland, and after the same rate of more or lesse in quantitie delivered. And whereas there are, at this present, diverse old coynes of base allaye within that her majesties realme of Ireland, used and passinge in payments betwene men, which beinge now decayed, adnulled, and called downe, her majestie doth thinke fitt to have the same brought in and reduced to one uniforme coyne of this new standard, her highnes is therefore pleased, that everie person whose shall have in his hands any quantitie of such base coyne, and shall bring in the same to any of the offices of her Exchange in Ireland, that the officer receivinge the same shall deliver to the bringer monie for monie of the monies of this new standard, now appointed to be currant in Ireland: and, forasmuch as this notorious inconvenience aforesaid cannot be prevented;

without there be a due observation of such lawes of this realme of England, as heretofore have bene made, restraining the transporting of the monies currant in England into that realme of Ireland in specie, wherein great disorder hath bene of late yeares committed, and therby great inconveniences ensued, her majestie doth straightly charge and commaund all magistrates and officers to whom it shall apperteyne, to see severe execution of such lawes as doe prohibit the transportation of her coyne of England into Ireland, and namelye one statute made in the nineteenth yeare of the raigne of her majesties grand-father of famous memorie, kinge Henrye the seventh, her majesties purpose being by this proclamation to admonish her loving subjects of both her realmes, and all others tradinge in her realme of Ireland, that they shall from henceforth forbear all transportation of monies of England into Ireland, for that her majestie will cause the former lawes, prohibiting the said transportation of monies, to be so straightly looked unto and executed, as the penalties thereof shall fall heavilye upon the offenders against the same, without any hope of remission. Given at her majesties castle of Dublin the twentieth of May in the fortie three yeare of her raigne. God save the Queene.

By the Lord Deputie and Councill.

A. D.
1602.
Rolls
office,
Dublin.
16 Jac. I.
5th pars.

Mountjoy.

No. XXI. Whereas the queens most excellent majestie findinge by the ancient records of both her realmes of England and Ireland, and that in later times, also in the reignes of her highnes noble progenitors, as her grand-father, father, brother and sister, there was a difference alwaies between the monies currant in ech of her highnes said realmes, and in her princely wisdom, by experience doth finde, that being occasioned for the maintenance of her armies within this kingdome, to send over continually great and huge masses of her treasure, which by sinister means have been transported into forraigne realmes contrarye to her majesties lawes therein provided, and the rebels of this her realme have gotten into their possession great quantities of her majesties sterling monies, wherewith from forraigne parts they furnish themselves with powder, arms, munition, and all things necessary: for reformation and redresse whereof, her majestie in her princely wisdom, and with the advise of her most honourable privie councill, hath thought fit and most best for the publicque good of both these her majesties realmes of England and Ireland, to reduce the monies of this realme unto the same standerd that formerly hath bene used, and therefore her majestie did by late proclamation of the twentieth of May, 1601, signifie her princely pleasure, that theise new coines, now currant, should onely be currant, and none other, and by the same did decree and call in all other monies whatsoever, willing and straightly charging and commaunding, that after the tenth of July then next followinge none should trade, commerce, use, buy or sell with anie of the said decryed monies, but onely with these new monies of her majesties new standerd, and that all the said decryed monies, as well of silver and gold as old copper, should be occupied as bullion, and forthwith to be brought into her majesties exchange, according to her highnes said proclamation, as by the said proclamation more at large

may appeare; but now for as much as the merchants and others within this realme have not, nor doe observe the said proclamation, but do still trade, commerce, contract, buy and sell, with the said decreed monies, and for their private guine doe keepe exchanges amongst themselves, and doe not bring in anie quantities of the said decreed monies into her majesties said exchange, according to her highnes said proclamation, wherein they have incurred the danger of such punishment, which by her majesties prerogative royall may be inflicted upon them, which would be over heavie if the same were duly laid on the offenders, and for that it is credibly enformed to her majestie and counsell in England, and to us the lord deputie and counsell here, by the master of the exchange, that here in Dublin, since the publishing of the said first proclamation, there hath been brought into the said exchange in Dublin above three-score thousand pound of the new standerd, for which bills of exchange have been given here (besides other great summes likewise of the said new standerd, given and exchanged by his ministers at Corke, Gallway and Carrickfergus) which by a probable estimation may amount to as much or more, and that there hath not been of the said decreed monies or bullion brought into the said exchange in Dublin, according to the said proclamation, so much as the summe of twentye pound, the which her majestie doth not take in good part, beeing meerlie contrarie to the tenor and true meaning of the said first proclamation, on which behalfe we have of late received two speciall letters from her majestie*, that we should by this new proclamation declare and make knowne her princely pleasure, as well in confirmation of the substance of the said former proclamation as with these new additions and explanations to the same, hereafter following, *viz.* That her majestie eftsoones willet and commandeth hereby, that no person or persons whatsoever henceforth shall trafficque or trade with the said decreed monies or bullion, or make any payment of wages, fees, stipends or debts, or shall use in bargaining, or any other matter of trade, commercing, or dealing, between partie and partie, for any matter of agreement, contract, or condition whatsoever, directlie or indirectlie, any of the said decreed monies, or any other monies, or bullion whatsoever, contrarie to the forme and true meaning either of the said former or this present proclamation; and that if any person or persons whatsoever, after the publishing hereof, do, or shall trafficque, or trade, with anie of the said decreed monies or bullion, or doe, or shall make anie payments of wages, fees, stipends, or debts, or shall use in bargaining, or anie other matter of trade, commercing, buying, selling, or dealing between partie and partie for anie matter of agreement, contract, or condition whatsoever, directlie or indirectlie, anie of the said decreed monies or bullion whatsoever, contrarie to the forme and true meaning either of the said former, or this present proclamation, shall, for his or their contempt, be punished by imprisonment, and by such fyne, as his contempt shall deserve in the judgement of the lord deputie or other governour generall of this realme and counsell of the same, for the time being, and in the

* See Moryson's hist. of Ireland, vol. ii. p. 145.

absence of the said lord deputie, or other governour; by the councell authorized in such absence, and by such other person and persons as by this proclamation are hereafter limited and authorized; provided nevertheless, that all goldsmiths free of anie citie or corporate towne within this realme may, by way of traffique, receive or exchange plate for plate, or anie other wrought gold or silver, and utter the same for monie of this new standerd. And that it shall be lawfull to all her highnes magistrates or others her majesties chief officers, as maiors, sheriffes, chief officers of corporate townes, and justices of the peace, that shall be informed of the payment or receipt of any such monies or bullion decried, to seize upon the same to her majesties use, and shall bring the same into her majesties exchange, within thirty daies next after such seizing upon paine of imprisonment, and such fyne to be imposed upon him as shall be thought fitt by the lord deputie, or by the councell authorized in his lordship's absence, and that everie person giving information of the payment or receipt of anie such monies decried or bullion shall have the one half of so much as shall be seised and adjudged for his paines, or the moitie of such fyne or fynes as shall be assessed upon the said information, when the seizure cannot be made; and to be otherwise recompensed or preferred as it shall seem meet unto us, or to such person or persons before whome such information shall be made according to this proclamation, and according to the desert of the informer. And whereas in her majesties first proclamation it was limited, that for everie twentie shillings of the old decried sterling monies brought into her highnesse exchange here, there should be allowed but one and twentie of the new currant monie, her highnesse pleasure is, that from henceforth her majestie is pleased to allow for everie twentie shillings of the said old standerd sterling monie, the summe of two and twentie shillings of these new monies, and so rateable and proportionable according to the summe brought into the said exchange, and in like rate for all gold and silver or plate of the finenes of the sterling monie decried, which shall be brought in according to the first proclamation or this. And whereas in her majesties first proclamation, there was no expresse mention made of the gold monies or bullion of gold, nor of profit for bringing in of them into her majesties exchange, although inclusive it was contained, because hereby all monies are decried in general tearms (except those of the new standerd) and offer made to receive all monies, plate, or bullion, of the finenes of the sterling or better, (which standerd sterling doth comprehend gold monie as well as silver) yet for better explanation of her majesties meaning and true sence of the former proclamation, we doe, by vertue of the said letters, publish that her majesties pleasure is, that all monies, either forraine or of her highnes owne coine, plate or bullion of gold, being of the finenesse aforesaid, which anie person shall bring to her majesties exchange, that the maister of her majesties exchange here, and his deputie or deputies, shall allow upon the worth of everie twentie shillings thereof not onlie twentie shillings of the new standerd monie, but also the overplus of two shillings for the same in the said new monie, and so ratable and proportionably according to the summe so brought in. And that further her majesties pleasure is,

for such old base monie as shall be brought into her majesties said exchange, there shall be allowed after the rate of twelve pence upon the pound. And for that her majestie is informed that diverse persons of this realme (especially merchants) using not plaine and sincere meaning in the construction of the first proclamation do take hold of so much thereof as serveth for the exchange of the monies of the new standerd for sterling to be delivered in England, but do not, according to the true scope and intent thereof, bring in anie sterling monies for monies of the new standerd to be here used, therefore her majesties pleasure is, that after the day of publishing of this proclamation, what person soever using the trade of merchandize, and all others, saving such as he or shall be in her majesties pay or entertainment within this kingdome, shall bring in anie monies of the new standerd of this realme into her majesties exchange here, to receive for the same monies sterling in England, shall withall deliver twentie two shillings in sterling monies into the exchange, as much as one full fifth part, at the least, of the summe by him delivered of the new monies to be exchanged doth amount unto, viz. in everie hundred pounds, twentie pounds sterling silver, gold, or plate of the finenes aforesaid to that value, and so rateable for anie greater or lesse summe, for which he shall have his bill, directed into England, to receive there sterling for the same, for which sterling decried monies or bullion so brought into the exchange he shall have two shillings in the pound without deduction, and for the rest he shall pay twelve pence in the pound, according to the proclamation. And for such as are or shall be in her majesties pay or intertainment, they may have an exchange without putting in anie monie of the old sterling or bullion of so much as there yearlie entertainment doth amonnt unto, so as they doe not excede that proportion, first takeing a corporall oath before the maister of the exchange, or his deputie or deputies, that the monie is his owne proper goods, without fraud or collusion, and for anie other monies which shall not be of his entertainment, he to performe the tenor of this proclamation as the merchants and others ought to doe. And if he or they shall not accordinglie bring after that proportion of sterling monies, with the monies of the new standerd, when he or they shall come to the exchange, the maister of her majesties exchange nor his deputies shall not be bound to give him bills of exchange according to her majesties first proclamation. And for the preventing of another fraud used by some merchants resorting to the exchange aforesaid, who lend their names for other men's monies, or take up monie upon credit, onelie to make profit by exchange therof, without trading in anie merchandize, but doe indeed make the said exchange (instituted by her majestie for the good of her subjects taking her highnesse pay here, and of the honest and true merchants dealing in trade of merchandise) a trade of private gaine; her majesties pleasure therefore is, and so we do publish, by this proclamation, that all and everie merchant (and none other) resorting to her majesties exchange, with monies of the new standerd, to be exchanged for sterling, to be delivered in England, shall bring a certificate from the officers of her majesties customehouse where his goods were entred, what goods he entered there, and at what tyme, to the end therby the maister of the

exchange and his deputies may discern that he seeketh nothing but the returne of his owne monie, and is not a colourer of other mens monies. Also we do declare, by this proclamation, that her majesties pleasure further is, that all and everie passenger and passengers coming from England do presentlie repaire to the exchange, and deliver to the officers here, such sterling monies as they brought with them*, for monies currant within this kingdome. And if it be suspected that anie passengers or others do not deale trulie in the deliverie of anie of the said sterling monie, that then her majesties officers of the said exchange with the officers of her majesties custome in the said ports, may search them to see what sterling monies they have, unlesse they and everie of them will take a voluntarie oath to open the truth, at the choise of anie such merchant or merchants, or of anie other sort. And whereas it is likely, that divers offences will be committed contrarie to the effect of this and the former proclamation, or anie one of them, by persons offending therein, within remote places and provinces, which offences and offenders cannot so convenientlie be called up hither, before us the lord deputie and councell, here to be inquired of, sensured and punished, as in those remote places, for remedie whereof, and for the more expedition of justice in that behalf, we do further publish, command, and authorize hereby, in her majesties name, that all and every offence and offences committed and done contrarie to the true meaning and effect of this and the other proclamation, within the severall provinces of Mounster, Connought, and Ulster, shall be informed, examined, sensured, and punished in manner and forme following, viz. such offences aforesaid as are or shall be committed within the province of Mounster before, and by the president and councell of Mounster for the tyme being; And the like offences committed, or to be committed, within the province of Connought, before and by the cheife commissioner and councell of Connought for the tyme being; and the like offence committed, or to be committed, within the remote parts of the province of Ulster, before and by the severall governours of Carrickfergus, Loughfoyle, and Ballishennon, for the tyme being, within their limits and jurisdictions: and that the said president and other person and persons, authorised hereby to receive such information, shall from time to time, as convenientlie as they may, make their severall certificates to us the lord deputie and councell here for the time being, or to the said councell authorized in the absence of the lord deputie as aforesaid, what their proceedings shall be in that behalfe, Provided alwaies, that if any person or persons shall seize any monie, bullion, or plate, by vertue of this proclamation, for anie offence committed contrary to the forme of the same, shall after such seizure or cause of information given, preferre an information before the lord deputie, or other governour and councell of this realme for the time being, or before the privie councell in the absence as aforesaid, or before such other person or persons, as by this proclamation is severally limited and authorized to receive such information in her majesties name, within thirty daies after such seizure and offence committed, or

* To be exchanged: I suppose is wanting.

otherwise shall have no benefit of any penalty laid downe for any offence committed contrarie to the forme of this proclamation. Lastly, her majesties pleasure is, and so we do publish by this proclamation, that where divers covetous persons, as well merchants, retailers, victuallers, and such like, do, by colour of this new standard mony, inhance the prices both of victuals and other necessities, that therefore her highnesse pleasure and commandement is, and so we do hereby declare in her majesties name, that all maiors and cheif officers of corporations, and clerks of the markets, and all other justices of peace and other officers, to whome it shall appertaine, do diligentlie and carefully looke to their offices and charge in this behalfe as they will answer at their perills, her majestie takeing it in verie evil part, that this her highnesse purpose being intended for the generall good of the kingdome should be thus perverted by some private persons for their private gaine. Given at her majesties castle of Dublin, the ninth of June, 1602.

By the Queene.

No. XXII. Upon the late alteration of the standard of our monies in this realme, whereunto we were led as well by examples of our progenitors, who had ever made a difference betwene the monies of this realme and our realme of England, as also by a necessary providence of keeping the sterling monies both from the hands of our rebels here, and also from transportation into forraine countries, which cheifly by the said rebels and their fautors was done, we did erect an exchange for the use of all sorts of our subjects and others, using intercourse between these two realmes, for converting of monies of the new standard of this realme into English monies in England, and of English monies into monies of this realme reciprocally, hoping that the honest and upright carriag of merchants, in an equal exercise of trafficke betwixt the two realms, would have caused in the said exchange an indifferent and mutuall commoditie both to the merchant for his trade, and to us in our payments, and both their and our intentions have concurred in preserving the sterling monies from the rebels and from transportation into forraine countries, but in this little time of experience which we have made thereof, being not yet two years past, we have found our expectation greatlie deceived, and the scope given in the first institution of the exchange exceedingly abused by the sleights and cunings of merchants, which though we did immediately upon the beginning of the exchange discover to be breeding, yet did we not thinke that the same would ever have growne to such an height as since we have perceived, wherefore we did, by some restrictions and limitations, seek to containe those frauds within reasonable boundes, but it falleth out that the remedies proposed have bene so farr from easing the grief, as whatsoever hath been by us prescribed for redresse hath but served for a ground and pretext of new inventions of deceit, for that by the cuning of some merchants the scope given by our proclamations to the said exchange is so abused, as that some merchant, who hath brought commoditie into this kingdome out of our realme of England, hath not been content to sell the same for reasonable gaine, but haveing raised the price of the same commodity to so much in the new monies as doe in there true value of

A. D.
1602.
Rolls
ib.
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silver almost countervail the sterling he paid for it there, viz. that which cost him tenn shillings sterling to thirtie shillings sterling, and after that rate, that which cost him an hundred pounds to three hundred, he hath returned to our exchange the same three hundred pounds which being answered him there in sterling, yieldeth him profit of three for one at least, which is so great a gaine as noe adventure of anie merchants unto the furthest parts of traffique doth yeld, and to us such a burthen, as if the same should be permitted were nothing else in effect but to make our exchequer a mart for the cunning of merchants to worke upon; besides, many of them have of purpose to make profit by the said exchange, bought vp old bills of debts from divers persons, to whom payment hath upon just consideration been deferred, and compounding for the same for small summes of monie of the new standard, returned the whole upon us by exchange, whereby they have made an exceeding profit contrary to the true meaning of our proclamation, intended for the use and benefit of such as used an honest and direct course of merchandise, by which fraud their is ever a great quantitie of monies of the new stand returned upon us for sterling monies in this realme, but neyther is their anie proportionable quantities of sterling monies heere, and consequentlie there doth grow upon us an intollerable burden in continual payments of sterling monies, and yet the two mischiefs which were the chiefe cause of alteration of the standerd are not remedied, that is the preserving of the sterling monies from the rebels, and from transportation into forraigne countries, for little of it being brought in by the merchants of this countrie, and the same being not currant to be used heere amongst our good subjects we find it is partly transported and partly falleth into the hands of the rebels, wherewith they have been the better enabled to continue in their wicked courses. Wherefore for redresse of so great abuse daily practised by merchants, we doe hereby publish that our mening is, that from the day of the publishing hereof the places of exchanging of monies shall be onely at Dublin for this our realme of Ireland, and at London for our realme of England, for all such as use the trade of merchandize, but for all others that are in our pay and haveing wages of us, as being of our armie or otherwise, there shall be a bancke maintained at Corke as heretofore to receive their bills, but the bills received their shall be payable onely at London. And for the use of passingers and souldiours departing out of this our realme into England, there shall be likewise exchanges at Bristoll and Chester, so as no such souldiour or passinger do bring thither any bill containing above the summe of foure pounds: but for the merchants there shall not be at the said places of Chester and Bristoll anie payments of bills returned, but onely at our citie of London in such manner as is hereafter expressed. And further our pleasure and meaning is, that the said exchange shall extend onely to such as now are, or hereafter, from time to time, shall be in our pay here, serving us in the field, or in wards or garrisons, and to all officers of government of justice of our revenues, or of our exchange, and to such others as are contained in our establishment, to all and everie of whome we are pleased to allow the benefit of exchanging monies of the new standerd of this realme into monies currant of

England (wanting onely twelve pence sterling in the pound) viz. yearly to each of them rateably in his degree for so much as he doth save above his expence of that which he doth receive yearly of us, or ought to receive clearly, for his pay, all deductions and defalcations being foreprised: and also for such further summe or summes, as our deputie or other governour or governours of this our realme; and counsell here, for the time being, or four of them at the least, shall thinke meet to allow to them, or any of them, upon his or their demands, so as the summe or summes, so to be allowed, do not exceed the summe or summes of his or their yearly fees, pay, or intertainment, and the warrant of such our said deputie, governour or governours, and counsell, shall be sufficient warrant to the maister of the exchange and his deputies, to make and give forth bills of exchange for such summe and summes as shall be contained and sett downe in the said warrant or warrants, according to the purpose and true meaning of the same, so alwaies that the monies so to be delivered in exchange be his or their owne proper money, and not borrowed, and that there be noe fraud used by any of them in abusing this our liberalitie and favour contrary to our true meaning; for prevention whereof, and for the better discoverie of all frauds; our pleasure is, that the master of our exchange, and his deputie or deputies, for the time being, shall, and may have power and authority, by vertue hereof, as well by examination of the partie or parties, upon his or their booke oaths, as by all other good means and circumstances seeming most meet to him or them, for the better finding out of any abuse tending to the defrauding of our true intencion and meaning. And for others usinge trade of merchandize although they deserve noe fauour in regard of the fraude wherewith many of them have abused our gracious meaning, in the institution of our exchange intended, and in regard of the excessive raising of the prises of all wares, wherby both our subjects are extreemly burthened here, and we intollerable charged in the exchange in England, yet in the regard of the povertie of this our realme wherby we conceive that their wanteth sufficient commodities of the growth and manufacture of this kingdome wherewith to maintaine trafficque, we are pleased to maintaine for their use an exchange in this manner. That everie such person, not being of those that belong to our establishment, but a merchant, who shall deliver to the master of the exchange or his deputies, in this realme, one hundred pounds, wherof fortie pounds shall be of the standerd of sterling in monie or plate of silver, or of gold, and three score pounds in mixt monies of the new standerd of this realme shall receive of the said master of the exchange, or his deputies, a bill directed to the bancke of exchange in England, where the same is payable, whereby he shall receive for ech hundreth pounds, delivered here in that manner, one hundred pounds in monies currant of England, wanting onely twenty pence in the pound, as heretofore as been ordained for ech pound of the mixt monies delivered, and for the sterling no defalcation to be made, and after that rate for more or lesse in quantitie. And to the end that the frauds used by some merchants may be the better prevented, and the master of the exchange, or his deputies, understand that he dealeth truly in bringing

his monies to the exchange; our pleasure is, that every such merchant, resorting to the exchange, shall bring a certifficat from the officers of our eustomehouse where his goods were entred, what goods he hath entred there, and at what tyme, to the end that it may thereby be discerned, that he seeketh nothing but the retourne of his owne monie, and is not a colourer of other mens, and that it may be lawfull to the master of our exchange, or in his absence to his deputies to put every such merchants or their factors, resorting to the exchange for bills of exchange, to their corporall oath, that such old decried monies brought by them to passe there new monies withall, came not; nor was brought out of England by the means, procurement, or knowledge, of any such merchant or merchants, of their factors, directly or indirectly, after the publishing of this proclamation. And for that diverse noblemen and gentlemen of this realm have cause many times to repaire into England, either for suits, or other necessarie causes, and some have children there, eyther at the universities, or at the innes of court, or chancery, or in our service at court, who shall have cause for those purposes, to use sterling monies, and to have the monies of this realme converted into monies currant of England: We are pleased, that all such shall have the benefit of the exchange in such manner as for those of our armies is above limited, for such yearly summes of money, as our deputie or other our governour or governors of this our realme, and counsell for the tyme being shall think good to allow to any of them upon their demands. And the warrant of our said deputie or other governor or governors of this our realme for the time being, and counsell, or four of them at the least, shall be a sufficient warrant to the maister of our exchange or his deputies, for the giving forth of bills of exchange proportionable, according to the said warrants to the said noblemen and gentlemen requiring the same. And whereas severall covetous and contentuous persons, notwithstanding our severall former proclamations heretofore published forbidding the use of all manner of monies other then that of the new standerd newly erected by us, and authorized by our said proclamations, have in contempt therof and of our prerogative royall, traded with monies forbidden and decried by the said proclamations, against which inconvenience such course is to be taken as the punishment of such offenders may be an occasion to cause others to be fearfull to fall into the same danger, for a caution whereof as heretofore we have eftsoone willed and commanded, so by this present proclamation we do will and command, that no person or persons whatsoever henceforth shall trafficque or trade with any of the said decried monies or bullion, or make or take any payments, or wages, fees, stipends, or debts, or shall take or use in bargaining, or in any manner of trade commercing or dealing, betwixt party and party, for any matter of agreement, contract or condition whatsoever, directly or indirectly, any of the said monies decried by the said former proclamations, or any other monie or bullion whatsoever, contrary to the forme and true meaning of either of the said former or this present proclamation, and that if any person or persons whatsoever shall offend herein, directly or indirectly, that such person or persons so offending shall for his or their contempt be punished by imprisonment, and by such fine as his

contempt shall deserve in the judgement of the lord deputie or other governor or governors generall of this realme and counsell of the same for the tyme being, and in the absence of the said lord deputy or other governor or governors, by the counsell authorized in such absence, and by such other person and persons, as by this proclamation hereafter shall be limited and appointed. Provided neyerthelesse, that all goldsmiths, free of any citty or corporatte towne within this realme may, by way of traffique, receive or exchange plate for plate, or any other wrought gold or silver, and utter the same for money of this new standerd; and that it shall be lawfull for all magistrates and others our chief officers, as maiors, sheriffes, chiefe officers of corporate towns, and justices of our peace, as shall be informed of the paiment or receipt of any such monies or bullion decried to seize upon the same to our use, and shall bring the same into our exchange, within thirtie dayes next after such seizing, upon paine of imprisonment, and such fine to be imposed upon him as shall be thought fit by the lord deputie and counsell, or by the counsell authorized in his absence; and that everie person, giving information of the paiment or receipt of any such monies decried or bullion, shall have the one half of so much as shall be assessed upon the said information, when the seizure cannot be made, and to be otherwise recompenced or preferred as shall seem meet to our said deputie, or to such other person or persons before whome such enformation shall be seized and adjudged for his paines, or the moitie of such fine or fines as shall be made according to this proclamation and according to the desert of the enformer. And further our pleasure is, for everie twentie shillings of the old decried sterling monie brought or hereafter to be brought into our exchange here, by any person or persons whatsoever, according to this or any former proclamations, that there shall be allowed for every twenty shillings of the said old standerd sterling, silver monie, so brought and to be brought in, the summe of twentie and two shillings of theise new monies, and so ratable and proportionable, according to the summe so brought into the exchange, and in like rate for all gold and silver, or plate of the finenes of the sterling monies decried, which shall be brought in according to this or any of the said former proclamations. And further our pleasure is, that from henceforward for all monies either forraine or of our owne coyne, plate or bullion of gold, being of the finenes of English sterling, which any person or persons hereafter shall bring to our exchange here, that the maister of our exchange here, and his deputie or deputies, shall allowe, upon the worth of everie twentie shillings therof, not onely twentie shillings of the new standerd monie, but also an overplus of * shillings and six pence for the same in the said new standerd, and so ratably and proportionably according to the summe so brought in. And also our pleasure is, for all such old base monies as shall be brought into our exchange here, there shall be allowed after the rate of ten upon the hundred to be paid in the said new monies. And whereas many greedie and covetous persons will adventure and be bold to counterfeit and forge monies like unto

* I believe there is some word wanting in the Original.

the monies of this new standerd, or shall bring into this realm any such counterfeit monies to the intent the same should be uttered here, and the same so counterfeited, or brought in, they or any knowing the same to be counterfeited, shall utter and put abroad in deceit of our people, and in incroching upon our prerogative royall, we therefore desirous so heinous malefactors should receive such punishment as the greatnes of such offence doth require, do hereby will and command all maiors, sheriffes, justices of the peace, and all other our officers, and loving subjects to enquire, seeke, and finde out all manner person or persons offending in manner as is aforesaid, to their uttermost powere, and such offender or offenders to arest and apprehend, and them to commit to the next gaill, their to receive such punishment as by the laws and statutes of this realme are ordeyned. Also we further declare our pleasure to be, and so doe command, that all and everie passinger or passingers, coming out of our realme of England into this land, do presently repairr to the exchange, and deliver to the officers thereof such sterling monie as they brought with them to be exchanged for monies currant within this kingdom, and if it be suspected that any passingers or others do not deale truly in the deliverie of any of the said sterling monies, that then our officers of the said exchange, and our officers of our custome in the said ports may search such passinger and passingers to see what sterling monie they have. And also, that the master of the exchange, or in his absence, his deputie or deputies, may put all and everie such passinger and passingers to their corporall oath to open the truth, what monies of the old decried sterling monies they have brought with them directly or indirectly. And where it is likely that divers offences will be committed contrary to the effect of this proclamation by persons offending therein within remote places and provinces, which offences and offenders cannot so convenientlie be called up hither, before our deputie and counsell heere, to be enquired of, sensured, and punished, as in those remete places, for remedy wherof, and for more expedition of justice in that behalfe, we do further publish, command, and authorize hereby, that all and every offence and offences committed and done contrary to the true meaning and effect of this proclamation, within the severall provinces of Mounster, Connoght and Ulster, shall be enformed, examined, sensured and punished in manner and forme following, viz. Such offences aforesaid as are or shall be committed within the province of Mounster, before and by the lord president and councell of Mounster for the time being; and like offences committed or to be committed within the province of Connoght, before and by the cheif commissioners and councell of Connoght for the tyme being; and the like offences committed or to be committed within the remote parts of the province of Ulster, before and by the severall governors of Carrickfergus, Loghfoyle and Balleshenen, for the tyme being, within there limits and jurisdictions; and that the said president, and other person or persons, authorised hereby to receive such information shall, from tyme to tyme, as conveniently as they may, make their severall certificats to our deputie or councell here, for the tyme being, or to the said councell, authorized in the absence of the lord deputie

whereof. And now having explained some part of the abuses offered to us in the exchange, and declared our pleasures for the reformation of them, we doe not doubt but that as upon the former restrictions by us proposed to the same end, so now many ill-minded persons will not stick to slander our doings, as though there were not in us an honourable meaning, to performe what here we have proposed, whereof, although our proceedings shall, by their just and true effect, manifest the contrary, yet because evill tongues accustomed to calumniate the actions of princes are sometimes the instruments of alteration of peoples minds from their dutyfull opinions of their sovereigns, where there is to us nothing so deare as the conservation of the love of our subjects, we doe (for preventing of any such malicious purposes) require all majestrats and officers, who have any charge in the government of this our kingdome to have an eare to such evil rumours and to the spreaders of them, and such as they shall find to be authors or instruments of divulging any slanderous speeches touching this matter of the exchange, to make them an example for other, to be admonished by, and to assure all men, that this institution of base monies in this kingdome hath had his cheifest ground, upon hope we had thereby to weaken the rebels of this kingdome, whoe by the use of sterling monies had, and have means to provide themselves from forraine parts of all things necessary to maintaine their evill courses, and that the same being this way partly, and partly by the powere of our armie, once suppressed, we shall have just cause to restore the monies of this realm to such estate as our progenitors have accustomed to use here. Given at our castle of Dublin the xxiiii of Janvarie 1602.

No. XXIII. See Moryson's history of Ireland, Vol. II. p. 145. Edit. Dub. 1735.

No. XXIV. Ibidem, page 221.

By the lord justice and councill.

Mountjoy.

No. XXV. Whereas in the life tyme of our late soveraigne lady of famous memory queene Elizabeth, there was one proclamation made by her highnes, dated at Dublin the 24th of Januarie last, concerninge the establishinge of a currant coyne in this realme of a new standard, as by the said proclamation in print may more playnelie and particulerlie appeare, for as much as sithence the decease of our said soveraigne lady, and in the tyme of our most gracious soveraigne lord the king that now is, some ignorant and misconceiving persons (as we are informed) doe affirme, that by the decease of our said soveraigne lady the force and effect of the said proclamation is determined, some others covetous and greedy persons doe refuse to receive by way of payment, or commercinge, the said monies of the new standard, and others, the worse affected persons of all, doe very lewdly and seditiouslie give out a lawfull libertie upon a supposed vacancy and interregnum, wheras in truth both by law and allegiance all good subjects ought instantly to obey all such former proclamations and lawes made and in force in the tyme of our said soveraigne ladye, as well in the tyme of our said soveraigne lord the king's majesty, that now is, as in the tyme before. For remedie wherof, and for prevention of many other

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1 Jac. I.
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inconveniences, and especiallie that our soveraigne lord the kinge, that now is, may have no cause but to thinke that we his highnes officers and subjects of this kingdome will, in all duty, love and loyaltie, holde and shew our obedience and service to his majestie, as we have done to his noble progenitors and auncestors (as by just dutie and allegiance we ought) we therfore the lord justice and counsell, late established heere, have published this present proclamation, in his majesties name, hereby requiringe and commandinge that all manner of officers and subjects of this realme, of what name, dignitie, honour, stile or qualitie soever they be, and everie of them, to be obedient, and well to performe the proclamation aforesaid of the new standard coyne in perticular, as also all other proclamations, lawes, statutes, injunctions, decrees and orders, in validitie, use and force, at the tyme of our late said soveraigne lady her decease: and that they and everie of them accomplish and performe the same to all intents and purposes hereafter towards our soveraigne lord the kinge that now is, as by their dutie and allegiance they ought; and untill his highnes shall be pleased to signifie his pleasure touchinge any alteration or revocation on that behalfe, and as they and everie of them will answer to the contrarie at their uttermost perills. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin the 18th of Aprill 1603.

By the lord deputy and counsell.

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ut supra.

George Cary.

No. XXVI. The kings most excellent majesty upon such true advertisement as he hath received, as well from the lord lieutenant of this kingdome as from the lord deputy and counsell of the same, of the extreame dearth of all things in this realme, with many other inconveniences, occasioned onlie through the alteration of the standerd of the monyes in the same, his majesty, according to his naturall inclination, to advance the good of his subjects, and the care he hath taken ever since he came to this crowne to see the same redressed, hath had many consultations with his highnes counsell to that purpose. And forasmuch as it hath appeared to be verie hard, without a silver coyne, to remove those great inconveniences which the baser coyne hath brought forth, his majesty, for the greater ease and commoditie of his armie and good subjects of this realme, hath thought meete not only to establish a new standard of nyne ounces fyne silver, beinge the antient standard of this kingdome, but also to reduce the base mixt monyes of three ounces fyne to their value in silver, and for the use of the poorer sort to allowe the monyes of meere copper, as pence and half-pence, to have still their course amongst his majesties subjects with such caution as hereafter shall be expressed. All which his majestie, by his highnes letters, dated at Woodstocke the seaventene day of September last, in the firste yeare of his majesties reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the thirtie-seaventh, hath authorized us to establish. We therefore, in his majesties name, doe hereby proclayme and publish his majesties expresse will and pleasure to be, that from the eleventh day of this October 1603, each peece of the said new standard of nyne ounces fyne, bearing the namé of a shilling, shall

goe currant and be taken of all persons in this kingdome for twelve pence sterlinge, and all other peeces of that new standard of silver rateable, accordinge to their proportion to the saide twelve pence. And for that there may be a due proportion betwixt the base mixt monyes now currant here, and the said new standard of silver his majesties, will and commandement is, and so we hereby, in his majesties name, proclayme and establish, that from the day aforesaid the said mixt monyes be called down to a thirde parte, the piece of twelve pence to be currant for foure pence of this new standard, and all other peeces of the said mixt coyne, after the same rate, and so to run currant and be taken by all his majesties subjects in this kingdome notwithstanding these fyner monyes nowe established. And for such monyes as are of meere copper as pence and half-pence his majesties pleasure and commandement likewise is, and so we doe, in his majesties name, proclayme and establish, that the saide peeces of coyne of pence and half-pence, being of meere copper, shall still have course and be currant, at the same rate they are now, amongst his majesties people in this kingdome, for the more necessary use of the poorer sort, with this caution and proviso notwithstanding, that no man is hereby bounde to take or receive of the said copper pence or half-pence in any payment above fiftie shillings in the hundreth poundes, and after that rate in lesse or greater sommes, viz. the fortieth part of any payment. And for that all men have herebie a meanes to utter the moneys of meere copper, beinge pence and half-pence, which are kept currant chiefly for the relief and sustentation of the lives of the poore, who are not able otherwise to helpe themselves then by the charitable devotion of others: We doe therefore chardge and command all such as sell victuall, or other commodities, fitt for their relief, to receive of the said poore the said pence and half-pence, soe it excede not foure pence at a tyme. We doe further straightlie chardge and command all manner of people within this kingdome, to observe all this his majesties will and commandement upon payne of fortie dayes imprisonment, without baile or enlargement, and such other fyne and punishment as for their demerits in breaking the same, or any part therof, shall by us the lord deputie and counsell be thought fitt to be inflicted, as upon those that impugne his majesties royall prerogative. And for as much as this his majesties princelie care of the welfare of his subjectes deserveth, on their partes, all dutifull obedience and thankfullnes, which they can no way better expresse then by ratinge their commodities at such reasonable prises, as upon this alteration of the standerd, and reducinge the mixt monyes to their true value, is now expected, which we doubt not will by well mynded subjects be willinglie performed, &c. &c. &c. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin the eleventh day of October, 1603.

By the lord deputie and counsell.

George Cary.

No. XXVII. Whereas the king's most excellent majestie, by former proclamation, hath caused the base mixt monyes now currant here, to be called downe to a third part, and the peece of twelve pence of that money to be currant for foure

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pence of the new standerd of silver, and all other peeces of the said mixt coyne after the same rate, which is the verie true value of them. Nowe to the end that there may be sufficient monyes for the subjects use in all contracte, commerces and payments, at such rates as no man can have cullour to refuse; we therefore, in his majesties name, and according to his highnes letters dated at Hampton-court the fifteenth day of October, in the second yeare of his majesties reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the eight and thirtieth, doe hereby proclayme, publish and establish, that from this present two and twentieth day of Januarie the said mixt monies be called downe to a fourth part, and that the peece formerlie beinge twelve pence, and sithence being so made foure pence, is and shall be currant for three pence of the said new standerd of silver, and all other peeces of the said mixt coyne after the same rate, and soe to runne currant and be taken by all his majesties subjectes in this kingdome. And we doe further signifie, that this his majesties favour is extended onlie to the intent to cause store of monyes to be current within this kingdome, for the furtherance of commerce, trade and contracte, untill there may be greater plentie of the said new standerd of silver; and we doe moreover straightly chardge and command all manner of people within this kingdome, to observe all this his majesties will and pleasure upon payne of fortie dayes imprisonment, without baile or enlargement, and suche other fyne and punishment as by us the lord deputie and counsell shall be thought fitt to be inflicted upon such contemners of his majesties royall prerogative. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin this two and twentieth of Januarie, in the seconde yeare of his majesties reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the eight and thirtieth.

By the lord deputie and counsell.

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Arthure Chichester.

No. XXVIII. Whereas our late soveraigne ladie Elizabeth, in the tyme of the late rebellion, did establish a standart of mixt monies, especiallie for the payment of her highnes armies, which then stood, and was of necessitie to be maynteyned in this kingdome, her highnes notwithstandinge allowinge the exchange of the said monies in England, to her exceedinge chardge and expence of treasure; and whereas, after the death of the said late queene, the rebellion beinge appeased, and the greatest part of the armie beinge discharged, the kings most excellent majestie, that nowe is, beinge given to understand, that the said mixt monies did breed many greevances and inconveniences to the subjects of this realme, was thereupon graciouslie pleased by a proclamation, bearinge date the eleventh of October, in the yeare of our Lord God 1603, not onelie to decree the said mixt monies to the true value thereof, but also to establish a new standard of nyne ounces fyne silver, being the antient standard of this kingdome, everie peece whereof bearinge the name of a shillinge should goe currant, and be taken for twelve pence sterlinge, and all other peeces of the said new silver standard should passe and be taken rateable, accordinge to the quantitie and proportion of the same, for as much as his majestie by his

severall letters of the five and twentieth of June, and of the thirtieth of September last past, hath expressly signified unto us, that the said worde sterlinge, did breed an error, beinge construed as if everie of the said harpe-shillings should be taken for sixteen pence of the money of this countrie, and soe should carrie as high a valuation as the sterlinge shillinge of England, whereas in truth his highnes meaning was, and is, that everie of the said harpe shillings shall have and beare the name and value onely of twelve pence Irishe, accordinge to the old standard of this realme, which in true value is but nyne pence Englishe, and not of the value of twelve pence sterlinge, accordinge to the standard of England, we doe therefore, in his majesties name, and by his highnes expresse commandement, proclayme and publishe, that from henceforth the said word or name of sterlinge shall not be given, applied or construed, to the said harpe shilling, beinge of the standard of nyne ounces fine silver, but that the said word or name of sterlinge, in that respect, shall be utterly abolished in this kingdome, and that everie silver harpe shillinge of the said standart of nyne ounces fine silver shall be called twelve pence Irish, or twelve pence currant money of Ireland, and not for twelve pence sterlinge, or twelve pence currant money of England, and that all and every person or persons whoe from henceforth are, or is, to paie or receive twelve pence Irish, or twelve pence lawfull money of Ireland, shall pay or receive one harpe shillinge of nyne ounces fine silver, and not six pence half penny farthinge (as of late hath bene used) for and in satisfaction of the said twelve pence Irish, or twelve pence lawfull money of Ireland, and shall paie or receive all other somes of money, accordinge to the same rate, and all and every person or persons whoe are, or is to paie or receive twelve pence sterlinge, or twelve pence lawfull money of or in England, shall pay or receive sixteene pence of the said new harpe monies of nyne ounces fine silver, for every such twelve pence sterlinge, or twelve pence currant money of or in England. Provided alwaies, that all payments to bee made to any person or persons, beinge warrant onelie by liste establishment or concordatum alreadye made and past, and not by letters patents under the greate seale or speciall direction hereafter from his majestie, shall be made accordinge to the rate or standart of the said newe harpe monies, of nyne ounces fine silver, beinge lawfull money of Ireland, and shall not be made accordinge to the rate or standart of English monies or lawfull money of England. And for that the word sterlinge hath bredd manye doubts in contracts, receipts and payments in this kingdome, yt is therefore his majesties expresse will and pleasure to avoide all ambiguities in that behalfe, that from hencefourth in all contracts, receipts, and payments, his majesties subjects of this kingdome shall use the word of currant or lawfull money of Ireland, wherby shall be understood money of the said standart of nine ounces fine silver proper to this kingdome. Given att his majesties castle of Dublin the eleaventh daye of November in the forth yeare of his majesties raigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotlapd the fortieth, 1606.

By the Lord Deputy and Councill.

Arthur Chichester.

A. D. 1607. No. XXIX. • Whereas our late soveraigne ladie Queene Elizabeth of famous memorie did uppon good and wise considerations alter the coyne of this kingdome, and erect a standart of course monies during the late rebellion, and to the end the said course or mixt monies might the better passe and bee currant, the said late Queen did by publique proclamation forbid the use of all other moneys within this realme, and namelie and especiallie of the monies of England, so as the said monies of England, or all English monies being of the standard of England, and not of the standard of Ireland, have sithence the said proclamation bene in the nature of bullion only within this kingdome; and albeit it hath pleased the kinges moste excellent majestie sithence his cominge to the crowne to amend the courses of the mixt coyne, and to settle a standard of monie of nyne ounces fyne silver, proper for this realme, to be the lawfull and currant money of Ireland, notwithstandinge, because the monies of the said new silver standard cannot be coyned in England, and sent over thither with such speed as his majesties service doth many tymes require, nor in such quantitie as is sufficient and necessarie for his majesties subjects to use in commerce and trafficque, in every part of this kingdome, his majestie hath signified * to revive the use of the said monies of England, within this realme, soe as it be with the preservation of the difference betwene the monies of this kingdome and of that; wee doe therefore in his majesties name, and by his majesties expresse commandement, declare, proclaime, and publish, that from henceforth all such monies of England, or oulde English monies, beinge of the standard of England, and not of the standard of Ireland, as doth nowe remayne, or hereafter shall be brought into this realme, shall passe and be currant within this kingdome, in this manner, and according to their rates following, viz. the peece of twelve pence or shillinge of England for sixteene pence of the said currant money of *Ireland*, of nyne ounces fyne silver, and soe all other peeces to passe and be currant after that rate and proportion, and that as his majestie shall from tyme to tyme issue and send of the monies of England into this realme for his highnes owne service and affaires, soe all his majesties subjects, and all other persons, having trade or commerce within this kingdome, may safely use, receave, and passe in payment, the said English monies, according to the rate aforesaid, any proclamation, commandement, restraunte, or prohibition heretofore made by the said late Queene Elizabeth, of famous memorie, or the king's most excellent majestie that nowe is, or by any lord deputye, lord justice and counsell of this kingdome, to the contrarie in any wise notwithstanding. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin the nyneteenth day of May, in the fift yeare of his majesties raigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the fortieth.

* Some words wanted here.

By the Kinge.

No. XXX. Whereas we are dailie informed by the officers of our mint and other-
 wise, that as well divers of our naturall borne subjects, both goldsmiths, merchants,
 and men of other trades, as also strangers inhabiting within this our realme of Eng-
 land, have presumed, for their private lucre and gaine, and dailie doe presume to
 weigh all sorts of monies currant within this our realme of England, to the end to
 cull out the ould and new monies, which either by not wearinge, or by anie other
 accident in the makeinge therof, are more weighty then the rest, some part of which
 monies soe culled out we have found (when that pleased ourselfe to enter into the ex-
 amination therof) to be dailie openly sould to goldsmithes, and by them imploied
 for the makeinge of plate and vessell of all sorts, within this our realme of England,
 and some part to be transported into forraine parts for private mens perticuler gaine,
 wherby there is a greate scarcity of good monie likelie to ensue, if present remedie
 bee not provided for the same; we therefore, in our princely care, intendinge with
 all convenient speede to redresse soe greate and insufferable a mischief, doe by this
 proclamation make knowen unto all men, that our will and pleasure is, and we doe
 hereby straightlie charge and command that noe goldsmith, or other person or per-
 sons, of what estate soever hee or they bee, (other then the master and officers of our
 mint for the service and imployment therof) presume, or enterprise, to melt anie
 monies of gold and silver, being the proper coynes of any our realmes or dominions,
 or currant within the same, or any of them, either to make plate or vessell therof,
 or for anie other use whatsoever, or doe presume to cull or chuse out from the rest
 anie weightie monies, to the intent to convey the same out of the realme, or to
 melte, or otherwise to alter it from coyne, upon paine of our heavie displeasure,
 and of such paines and punishments as upon the contemners of our royall com-
 mandement, grounded upon the publique good, may be inflicted. Given att our
 mannor of Greenwich the eighteenth day of May, in the ninth yeare of our raigne
 of Great-Britaine, France and Ireland.

No. XXXI. Rymer's Fœdera, Tom. xviii. p. 108.

No. XXXII. Ibidem, p. 143.

No. XXXIII. Ibidem, Tom. xix. p. 389.

No. XXXIV. Ibidem, p. 760.

No. XXXV. Rolls office, Dublin.

No. XXXVI. Ibidem.

By the Lord Deputy and Council.

Wentworth.

No. XXXVII. Whereas divers complaints have been made unto us the lord de-
 puty from several parts of this kingdome, concerning the stop and refusall of far-
 thing tokens, proceeding as well from the abuse in counterfeiting the same, as in
 causing the same to pass in payment either for commodities, or for wages to workmen
 and labourers, in greater quantities then was intended, which abuses are become a
 great burthen and grievance to his majesties people in many parts of the realme, for
 the remedy and reformation whereof, and to the end that the said farthing tokens

A. D.
 1612.
 9 Jac. I.
 Rolls of-
 fice, ibi ut
 supra.

A. D.
 1634.
 Council-
 office
 book, A.
 42.
 Dr. P. col-
 lection,
 v. i. p. 42.

may be used onley for exchange in small summes, but not to be put upon any in-great payments : These are therefore in his majesties name to publish and declare, that it is utterly unlawfull and expresly contrary to his majesties letter patents and proclamations, that any such farthing tokens should be inforced upon any poore labourers or workmen, or any other person or persons in any payment, either of great or lesser summes, and it is further declared, that no person should pay above two pence in farthings to any other person at any one time ; and also it is by these presents declared, that it is unlawfull for any man to buy or barter for any farthings, at, or for any lesser rate then they are usually vented by his majesties patents, to whom the sole making thereof is granted, and upon whom the rechange thereof lyeth : All persons being hereby to take notice, that whensoever they shall bring unto Edward Lake, agent for the said patentees, (who is resident in the city of Dublin) any sum of lawfull farthings, he, the said Edward Lake, will pay unto them the like summe in silver, according to the covenant with the patentees : And it is further declared, that if any person or persons shall forge or counterfeit any of the foresaid farthing tokens, or shall bring or cause to be brought into this kingdom any such farthing tokens, so forged or counterfeited, or shall vent or make payment of any such farthings so counterfeited as aforesaid, knowing the same to be counterfeited, that then every such person or persons, so offending, shall receive such censure, by losse of ears, or other corporal punishment, as by the court of castle chamber heere in this kingdom shall bee thought meste. And further it is declared, that it shall be lawfull for, and we accordingly require and command all and singular maiors, justices of the peace, sheriffes, constables, headebouroughs, comptrollers, customers, searchers, waiters, and other his majesties officers and ministers, to whom it shall or may appertaine, to apprehend all and every person or persons, whom they or any of them shall probably suspect to be such counterfeiters, as also, to seize upon all such counterfeit farthings, and ingins, or instruments for the making or forging the same, and them so seized to breake in peeces and utterly deface : And lastly, all his majesties loving subjects are hereby required to apprehend and bring before some of his majesties justices of the peace all such persons as they shall know, or probably suspect to have counterfeited, brought into this kingdom, or vented such farthing tokens as aforesaid, and all the said justices of the peace are hereby commanded to commit to the next shire-goal such offenders so taken, there to remaine untill they put in security to answere the said offences, in the castle chamber, which bonds so to be taken from time to time, together with such examinations, as the said justices of the peace shall have taken of or concerning such offenders, they are from time to time, monethly, to return hither to his majesties attorney-generall, together with the names of such of them, as shall remaine in prison, for want of security to appear in the castle chamber. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin, the sixteenth of September, 1684, in the tenth year of his reigne.

Journal of H. L. 1634, Dublin. No. XXXVIII. Page 223. 3d Decemb. committee for a free conference. Sir Geo. Ratcliffe, and the rest of the committee of the house of commons attending in

the room appointed, the lords being in the upper house, came forth and took their places; then Sir George Ratcliffe, assisted by Mr. Patrick Darcy, and others, makes a learned and eloquent discourse, setting forth how many mints there were antiently in this kingdom, how that in the time of Edward I. the king had three thousand pound *per annum* profit by the mint, which is nine thousand pound in value at this day, that the mint continued till about the time of the reigne of king Edward VI; and that for many weighty reasons conducing to the honour and profit of the king and this kingdom, it was the desire of the commons, that their lordships would join with them in moving his majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to cause a mint to be erected and set up, and if their lordships approve thereof, that a touch be thought on, which would be wished to be the same as in England; and whether it be fit and likely to be set up at the king's charge, or at the charge of such as would undertake the same; and that if it be thought fit they may be humble suitors, that his majesty may be pleased to declare himself. (p. 264. 15 Decemb.) a committee of the commons admitted in, and Sir George Radcliffe, assisted with divers others of the house of Commons, approach the bar and deliver a petition touching a mint and assay to be set up.—The said committee depart.—The lord chancellor reports it to the lords, and moves that the same may be presented to the lord deputy as the joint act of both houses.—p. 268. The lord chancellor delivers the petition to the lord deputy, who peruses it.—p. 269. The lord chancellor declares (from the lord deputy) to the lords and commons, that the petition had been delivered to the lord deputy, and that his lordship had perused it, that his lordship approved it, and would give it the best furtherance he could.

No. XXXIX. Earl Strafford's letters, vol. i. p. 366. Dublin 1740.

No. XL. Ibidem, p. 386.

No. XLI. Ibidem, vol. ii. p. 12.

No. XLII. Ibidem, p. 133.

No. XLIII. Ibidem, p. 134.

No. XLIV. Ibidem, p. 151.

By the Lord Deputy and Councill.

Wentworth.

XLV. Whereas the records and accompts of his majesties revenues, certaine and casuall in this kingdom, and all the receipts and issues of his majesties money heere have heretofore usually been reckoned in Irish money, or harpes, which is a fourth part lesse than sterling English, whereby it hath some times hapned, that his majesties processe to sheriffes haveing issued after that manner, the sheriffes in some parts have been observed to levy sterling English money of the subjects instead of Irish, thereby over-charging the subjects a fourth part more then of right they ought to pay, and the sheriffs notwithstanding answering in his majesties exchequer but Irish money onely, according to the summes contained in the greene wax bookes; whereas, if the records, accompts and processe, were all in sterling, the subject who either pays money to the sheriffe, or other his majesties ministers, or receives money out of

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B. A. 42.

No. 34.

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lection, v.

i. p. 49.

his majesties exchequer, would thereby more easily, and certainly know what he is either to pay or receive. And whereas it is observed, that great uncertainty sometimes ariseth in the interest of the subjects, touching reservations of rents or annuities, bills, bonds, contracts, and other agreements, made between party and party, for payment of moneys, which is interpreted to be Irish, if the word sterling or English be wanting: And whereas his majesty having taken notice of the said inconveniences, hath beene graciously pleased to require us, by act of councell and proclamation, to prevent the continuance thereof, and so to provide, as that neither in his majesties receipts, or issues, nor in the private interests of his subjects, any such differences, or national distinctions doe any longer continue. We therefore, in obedience to his majesties commaunds, doe, by this proclamation publish and declare, and doe hereby strictly charge and command, that from and after the twentieth of March last preceding the date hereof, all the accompts, receipts, payments and issues of his majesties moneys, in this kingdome, doe passe, and be accomptable in English money, and not as hath been formerly used, in Irish money, viz. accompting twelve pence sterling for sixteen pence Irish, and so *pro rata* for greater and lesser summes. And that all records to be made by, from and after the said time, of any of his majesties moneys or debts, and all extracts of what kinde or nature soever, of any debts due to his majesty, and all surveyes, inquisitions, and other records whatsoever, shall be from thenceforth returned and made up, reckoned and accompted in English money, according to the rate aforesaid, and not as hath been formerly: And that all processes of what nature soever, issuing after the said time, for any debts due to his majesty, doe mention the summes in English money, according to the rate above mentioned; and that all reservations of rents, bills, bonds, contracts, and all other agreements, after the first day of May next, to be made and contracted between party and party, for moneyes, shall be understood and interpreted to be English, though the same have not the word sterling or English added to them, and that they be accordingly so adjudged by all his majesties judges, and others whom it may concerne, when, and as often as any controversie of that kinde shall arise before them. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin, the sixth day of April, in the thirteenth yeare of his majesties raigue, *Anno Dom.* 1637.

By the Lords Justices and Councell.

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1642.
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A. 42.
No. 71.
Dr. P. collection, v.
l. p. 97.

William Parsons. Jo. Borlase.

No. XLVI. Whereas we the lords justices and councell, for the reasons expressed in an act, or order of this board, dated the fift day of this moneth, declared, that we find it of absolute necessity for the reliefe of the officers of army, that (in the case of extremity wherein we now stand, and in the said act or order of this board is more fully expressed) all manner of persons of what condition or qualitie soever, dwelling in the city or suburbs of Dublin, as well within the liberties as without, within ten daies next after publication of the said order, doe deliver or cause to be delivered half or more of his, her or their plate to William Bladen, of Dublin, alderman, and John Pue, one of the sheriffes of the same citty, taking their

hand for receipt thereof, to the end use may be made thereof for the present relieve of the said officers. And this board by the said order did give the word and assurance of his majestie and this state, that as soone as the treasure shall arrive forth of England, due satisfaction shall be made after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as is true tuch, and the true value of such as it not of such tuch to the owner thereof, together with consideration for forbearance for the same, after the rate of eight pound *per cent. per Annum*; or otherwise, that the parliament in England, according to their severall manifests in England in that behalf, shall and will see the same accordingly paid, and for as much as we conceive that there are divers of his majesties good subjects in the county of Dublin, who have the like good affections for his majestie and his service, as the said inhabitants of the city and suburbs of Dublin have, and therefore we conceive they would be loath to be deprived or forclosed of the same meanes, and on the same security, for expressing those their good affections to his majestie and his service upon this occasion; we therefore, as well to doe them the favour to give them opportunity to express their readines and forwardnes in this particular, as for the furtherance and advancement of his majesties service therein, have thought fit hereby to declare and order, that they the said good subjects in the countie of Dublin, and every of them, that shall bring in halfe or more of his, her and their plate, for the necessarie service aforesaid, shall be received and admitted so to doe, with the same favour and respect, and on the same securitie that those dwelling in the cittie and suburbs of Dublin are or shall be, and with this enlargement of time, and maner of doing it to both, that they may, within ten dayes next after the date hereof, deliver or cause to be delivered to the said William Bladen, and John Pue, halfe or more of his, her, and their plate as aforesaid, taking their hands for receipt thereof, that the said William Bladen and John Pue doe meet every day (except the sabbath day) at the dwelling house of the said William Bladen, scituate in Castle-street, in Dublin, and there continue every forenoon from nine till eleven of the clock, and every afternoon from two till four of the clock, there to receive the said plate, and to give acknowledgements of the receipts thereof, expressing the parties name from whom it comes, and the waight, tuch, and value thereof; and it being intended that due satisfaction shall be made for the said plate to the owners thereof, after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as is true tuch, and the true value of such as is not of such tuch, together with consideration for forbearance of the same after the rate of eight pounds *per cent. per annum*, we thinke fit that the said William Bladen and John Pue doe call to their assistance Gilbert Tongues and Peter Vandenhoven, who with the said William Bladen and John Pue are to view the said plate, and the value thereof, at the deliverie thereof as aforesaid, and to observe and try the tuch of every parcell of plate, so to be delivered as aforesaid, and by writing under their hands, and to be written under the acknowledgement to be given by the said William Bladen and John Pue, for receipt thereof, to certifie the tuch and value of every such parcell of plate. And we do hereby give the word and assurance of his

majestie and this state, that as soone as treasure shall arrive forth of England, due satisfaction shall be made to the respective owners of such plate, after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as shall be so certified as aforesaid, to be true tuch, and the true value according as the same shall be certified as aforesaid of such as is not of such tuch, together with consideration for forbearance for the same as aforesaid; or otherwise, that the parliament in England, according to their severall manifests in England in that behalfe, shall and will see the same accordingly paid. And we doubt not, that all persons who are able, will now expresse such cheerfulness and forwardnesse herein, as may testifie the true sense they have of the present occasion, and the desires they have to advance the publike service, for the good and safety of this kingdome, and of their own persons and estates therein, which his majestie and this state will take in good part at their hands, and will retaine a memory thereof for their advantage. And we require the maior and sherifes of the city of Dublin forthwith to cause this our order to be published and proclaimed in, and throughout the said cittie and suburbs of Dublin, that all persons concerned therein may take notice thereof. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin the 14 day of January, 1642.

A. D.
1643.

C. O. B.

A. 42.

No. 83.

Dr. P. col.

lection v.

i. p. 105.

Jo. Borlase.

By the Lords Justices and Councell.

Hen. Tichborne.

No. XLVII. We the lords justices and councell having received his majesties most gracious letters of the 25 of May, 1643, under his highness hand and signature, the tenor whereof is as hereafter followeth, viz

Charles R.

Right trusty and right well-beloved councellors, we greet you well; we taking into our princely consideration, that by reason of this most barbarous and bloody rebellion in Ireland, our good subjects there are reduced to that extreme penurie, that now (as their last helpe and refuge) they are inforced and desirous to have such little plate as they have left them, to be coined for their reliefe, into some small peeces of monie that might passe currant in exchange both there and in our kingdome of England, and that the quantity of plate or bullion there so to be melted down, and coined, is of so small and inconsiderable value, that it is not worth the charges of erecting a mint there, according to our former intentions, which would likewise take up more time then their present and pressing necessities will permit, we are therefore graciously pleased for the releefe of our good subjects there, to require and authorize you, to issue forth one or more commission or commissions, under the great seale of that our realme, unto such person or persons as you shall thinke fit, thereby authorizing him or them to melt down such plate, coyne, bullion or silver, as shall be brought unto him or them, into small peeces, to the value of five shillings, halfe-crowns, twelve-pences, six-pences, or of any less value, which several small peeces they shall make of the same waight, value and allay, as our moneys now currant in England of those value respectively are, and shall stamp the same on the one side, with these letters, (*scilicet*) C. R. for *Carolus Rex*, with a

crown over those letters, and on the other side with the values of the said severall peeces respectively, and the same so made and stamped, to redeliver to the bringers of the plate, coyne, bullion or silver, so melted downe; and we further authorize you hereby to make all such peeces, as shall be so made, to be currant by proclamation there, we intending to make the same currant in this our kingdome, and that you appoint such allowances unto the said person or persons, for their so coyning of the said peeces, as you shall thinke convenient, and that you take of them good and sufficient security for their true melting, making and deliverie of the said peeces in weight, value and allay, as good as our moneys of the like value now currant in England are, so that no fraud or abuse be done to our people herein; and for your so doeing, these our letters shall be your sufficient warrant. Given under our signet, at our court of Oxford the twentiefift day of May, 1643.

By his majesties command.

Edward Nicholas.

And whereas by his majesties commission under the great scale of this kingdom, bearing date the seaventh day of this month, in the nineteenth yeare of his majesties raigne, Sir John Veale, knight, Peter Vandenhoven and Gilbert Tongues, goldsmiths, are authorized to melt, or cause to be melted downe, such plate, coine, bullion or silver, as shall be brought unto them, into small peeces, according to his majesties said directions, and whereof an eight part is to be in Groats, Threepences and Twopences; and whereas the said Sir John Veale, Peter Vandenhoven and Gilbert Tongues, have entred into recognizance, of two thousand pounds sterling, for the true making of the said peeces of the same weight, value, and allay, as his majesties moneys, now currant in England, of those values respectively are, and for the redelivery of such peeces unto the bringers of plate, coyne, bullion, or silver, whereof the same shall be made, they first receiving for the coyning thereof, the summe of three shillings for every pound weight, every pound weight being three pound of sterling money, according to the weight of the tower of London, so to be melted down or coyned, and so after the same rate for a greater or lesser proportion, and no more. Now we the Lords Justices and counsell, according to his majesties good pleasure, so to us signified as aforesaid, doe, by this proclamation in his majesties name, publish and declare, that all such peeces, as shall be by them the said Sir John Veale, Peter Vandenhoven and Gilbert Tongues, melted or caused to be melted down, or coyned, according to his majesties said letters, and commission, doe and shall presently after the publishing of this proclamation, be currant money of and in this kingdom, and doe and shall passe as currant money in all exchanges and payments, as well of debts, as for any wares, merchandises or other commodities whatsoever. And we require the maior and sheriffs of the citty of Dublin to cause this proclamation to be forthwith published and proclaimed throughout this citty and suburbs. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin, the eight of July, 1643.

A. D. No. XLVIII. October 27, 1642. It is this day ordered by the assembly, that
 1642. there shall be a seal in this kingdom, for sealing and attesting such matters as shall
 18 Car. I. be ordered, &c.
 Rymer, v. xx. p. 537

October 29, 1642. It is this day ordered, that every person or persons whatsoever; talking or discoursing in writing or otherwise of the enemies, shall not call them by the name or names of English or Protestants, but shall call them by the name of Puritanical or Malignant party.

November 1, 1642. It is this day ordered, by this great assembly, that the (undernamed) committee shall consider of and lay down a model of civil government within this kingdom, &c.

November 15, 1642. It is this day ordered, that all the generals, &c. shall lay down a model for the martial government to be established in this kingdom, &c.

Ordered, The supreme council shall nominate and appoint one or more agents to be employed to his majesty, hereby to inform his majesty's highness of the motives and causes of raising this holy war, and other the grievances of this kingdom at this present,

It is this day ordered, by this assembly, that coin and plate shall be raised and established in this kingdom, according to the rates and values hereafter mentioned, and that there shall be forthwith coined the sume of four thousand pound, to pass currant in and through this kingdom, according to a proclamation, or act published by direction of this assembly in the city of Kilkenny, and not otherwise, &c.

November 19, 1642. The supreme council to take care, that the king's revenue be daily gathered up, for the making of a common stock for the use of the kingdom.

November 21, 1642. It is ordered, That the right honourable the earl of Castlehaven, and such others as his lordship shall call to his assistance, shall present unto the supreme council of this kingdom an institution and order of knighthood, concerning the honour of saint Patrick, and the glory of this kingdom, which the supreme council may confirm and ratify so far as they see cause.

Council
 office
 book. A.
 89. p. 218

To the councell of state in England.

No. XLIX. November 19, 1651. We have formerly given your lordships an account of some discoveries made by us here, of counterfeiting gold and other English coine, and sending over from England great sums of counterfeit, base and clipped money, and also given your lordships the names of some parties we have in prison here, and of some of their confederates in London, viz. &c.

Ibid. A.
 90. p. 368

To the agents sent from hence to England.

December 3, 1652. We have put out a declaration here for the regulating of forreigne coyne, and have prohibited English clip't money to be passed in payment above the intrinsic value, which we have declared to be five shillings per ounce troy weight, by reason whereof our payments have been at a great stand here for want of a mint, we have written to the councell of state for a power therein.

To the councell of state in England.

Council
office
book. A.
90. p. 360

December 4, 1652. The passing of clip't English money currant in pay in Ireland, and the uncertain rates that forein monies went at, hath been a very great prejudice to your service here, and tended much to the diminution of the English coyne; very great quantities of clip't English money being sent over out of England, by merchants and others, for the gains that was to be gotten thereby, in so much that of late no money was to be received in pay but clip't English money, or outlandish coyne. Whereupon (application being made unto us by severall merchants and others of your ministers here, for prevention of the further growth of this evill) we were necessitated to publish the inclosed declaration and order, foreseeing that the longer we delayed this course, the more the service and interest of the common-wealth would suffer thereby. Yet we find that unless power be given to coyne the clip't money here, (which is wanting in our instructions) this evill will again grow upon us, (the good English money being carried back into England) and in a short time no currant money will be left here but forrein money, and very much of that either light or course Peru. We therefore humbly desire (if your lordships shall conceive fitt) that power may be speedily sent hither for the stamping or coyning of twenty thousand pounds, or such other quantity as you shall judge to be for your service, &c.

To the committee for Irish affairs in England.

Ib. p. 516

July 15, 1653. Some few monthes since, we took the boldness to represent to the councell the pressing necessities of a mint to be appointed in this country, by reason of the great want of the small English money; for finding it adviseable, as the only means appearing unto us, to prevent the abuse of English coyne, in clipping and counterfeiting of it, to call in all the bad and clipped money, and to forbid the currency of it in payment unlesse by weight. The greatest part of the English money proving bad and clipped, small payments could not easily be made either to the souldiers, or unto others, where by much distraction was occasioned. This our desire was transmitted to the Parliament, who were pleased to make an order for one hundred thousand pounds to be coyned in Ireland, refering it back to the councell of state for settling it, in the progress and debate of which there appearing some difficulty about sending persons over out of England for it, and that way there proposed amounting to an excessive charge, the inclosed expedient was tendered to us by some inhabitants of this towne, who are esteemed honest knowing men, which comeing to the council but a few days before the late change, we againe humbly offer to your consideration, being the more induced at this season to doe it by reason of very much corruption and abasement discovered every day to grow more and more, &c. To prevent which we know not a more probable expedient then the speedy erecting of a mint here, &c.

Council
office
book. A.
30. p. 148

To the Lord Protector.

May it please your highness,

No. L. By many former addresses unto your highness and counsell we have made known the miserable condition this nation is in, through that vast quantity of Peru and other base and counterfeit coyne, this poor nation hath of late bene burthened with. Indeed we are not able (soe fully as we would) to expresse our resentments of this growing evill, the generall discontent it beares upon most men's hearts, nor the prejudice that is likely to arise, unless some speedy remedy bee applied, for like a gangren this adulterate coyne spreads farr and near. It banishes hence the currant coyne of Spaine, and eats up the good English money, which the merchants (for want of exchange or other commodities to return) make it a secret trade to export into England, or (notwithstanding our utmost care for prevention) into some for-reigne partes, to any place where it yields most advantage, hereby the stock of this nation is detrimented much above two thirds as is conceived; little other money is visible, save this counterfeit American, which ordinarily goes for four shillings and six pence, and upon the essay is found not to value two shillings and four pence, and most of that which runs currant is very little better then brasse or alchamy. Trade hereby is exceedingly obstructed, plantation much discouraged, necessary provisions withheld, and monthly contributions (for supply of your highness's forces here) payd in such base coyne, as become great loss to the receivers, and being refused in divers places (the temper of the people generally abhorring it) the publique affairs without speedy care ('tis feared) will unavoidably fall into disorder, nor can we apprehend other then that this manifest inconvenience may in the end begett disturbance in the people, unless your highness (out of your pious and fatherly care of the welfare of this country) tenderly consider of what we have faithfully represented. Nor know wee any other or better expedient for the cure hereof, or how to apply a suitable remedy, save by a mint, which now, as formerly, we most humbly and earnestly desire (if the same may be held adviseable) may (at least for some time) be erected here. This (as we conceive) will allay the importation of more such trash, it will encourage us to decry what through necessity is made currant here, will enable us to call in the Peru and Mexico (which are little better then brasse, and at present the farr greater proportion of coyne here) and being melted, the produce may be reduced to the standard. And for that the souldier, and poorer sort especially, want the lesser and smaller sorts of money for change and to buy provisions with; this may accommodate them with small and necessary proportions, &c. Dublin castle, April 16, 1656.

H. C. R. P. M. C. M. T.

To his Highness the Lord Protector.

Ib. A. 90.
p. 616.

May it please your highness,

Feb. 16, 1653,

No. LI. The inclosed is a coppie of a letter sent in July last to the committee at Whitehall for Irish affairs, representing the necessity of a mint in this country, but they being through multiplicity of business hindered, and nothing since effected in

it, we have taken the boldness humbly to apply our selves to your highness, in regard the inconvenience which we find to have happened to your affaires here since our first application for a power to coine the forreigne money into English (for the reasons formerly sett forth) is soe great, and that sort of money generally soe falsified, that the stock of the countrey (in money) is conceived to be detrimented thereby above one third part, there being scarce any coine now left but foreigne, and that for the most part course Peru pieces. The English money (and for want of that) the best sort of Spanish being bought up by merchants to make their returns into England, for want of commodities in barter to exchange here. A proof of the value of which course Peru hath, by our order, been lately made, by which it did appear that six hundred thirty-five pounds of Peru money, at the rate of foure shillings and six pence each piece (being the rate now currant) melted down, did yield in sterling money, upon an exact assay thereof, but foure hundred and one pounds, soe that two hundred thirty and three pounds was lost in that small parcell at the rates now usuall; beside this losse in the course Peru, we finde, by the relation of your officers here intrusted with the receipts of the revenue, that very much of the forreigne money, which runne in payment, is altogether brass and counterfeit upon the whole, therefore we humbly conceive, that unlesse some speedy course be taken to call in all base forreigne moneys, and reduce it into English coine, there will be in a short time noe money left to pay your forces, or for necessary exchange amongst the people, but counterfeit and bad money, and consequently your affairs here will unavoidably fall into disorder: all which we conceive our duty to represent to your consideration, to doe therein as in your highness prudence shall be thought fitt, and are, &c.

To the Lord Deputy of Ireland.

May it please your excellency.

4th March 1656.

Council
office
book. A.
30. p.247

No. LII. By occasion of many complaints, from time to time, touching the inconveniencies arising to the people here by forreigne coyne, the same being either generally of base metall, or not neare answering the intrinsique value to what they passe for, we have taken the same into our serious consideration, and the benefitts which in our judgement would redound to this land, by a due and timely depressing thereof, which we apprehend would be the producing more plenty, ballancing, and quickning trade, necessitating and encouraging the exportation both of English inhabitants, and comodities, and forwarding the plantation here. The expedients and steps for this worke are many, and will require time throughly to consider, and being considered to put in execution, being gradually to be done, yet because the opportunity now in our hands calls for some speedy beginning therein, and yet not conceiving ourselves by any of our instructions impowered for it; we doe therefore in the first place (as our duty require) submit the consideration of the whole, to his highness's wisdom, and pleasure, whether wee may at all make any progresse in it, which if approved of, that then his highness and the councell would please to impower us here, in order thereunto, for the using such wayes and meanes to effect the same, as we shall judge meete. And we crave leave to let you know, that the speedy signi-

fiction of his highness and the counsell's pleasure herbin (as shall stand with this great concernment) will be requisite to the present carrying on of this affaire which is desired by, yours, &c.

A. D.
1660.
Auditor's
office, lib.
xxxii. p.
80.

: Abstract of King Charles II's Patent to Sir Thomas Armstrong for coyning farthing tokens of copper.

No. LIII. Charles the second, &c. To all &c. Whereas the making and uttering of farthing tokens hath been found to be of greate and generall use and benefitt to our people of our realme of Ireland, as well amongst tradesmen for exchange of moneys in the course of their severall trades, and especially of the poore and meaner sort. Know yee, &c. that we have granted, and grant, &c. for us, &c. to Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, his heirs, executors, administrators and assignes, full power, &c. dureing the terme of twenty years from the date hereof, to coyn such a quantitie of farthing tokens, of copper, as may be conveniently issued during the said terme amongst our subjects of Ireland. And that in order they be distinguished from any other tokens, they shall be made of copper by engines, and shall have on one side two scepters crossing one diadem, and on the other side a harpe crowned with our title *Carolus secundus magne Brittanie, Francie et Hibernie Rex*, and to weigh twenty graines or more, with a privy marke from time to time in order to discover the counterfeiting of any such like tokens, which farthing tokens, we do hereby for us, our heirs, and successors, will and ordaine, shall pass and be generally used between man and man, that shall and will voluntarily and willingly pay and receive the same as tokens, for the value of farthings, within this our kingdome of Ireland, forbidding all other persons whatsoever to make, counterfeit and utter, any other such tokens, or any other pieces of copper, upon pain of forfeiture of the said counterfeited money, and engines used in the making thereof; all officers, justices and magistrates, ordered to be aiding and assisting the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, &c. in the due execution of the premisses, they paying unto us, our heirs, and successors yearly, during the abovesaid terme, the sume of sixteen pound thirteen shillings and four pence of lawfull money of England, in two payments, viz. on the twenty-fourth of June and twenty-fifth of December, and if any part thereof be not paid within thirty days after it becomes due, these letters patents to be void and of no effect. The said Sir Thomas Armstrong, &c. to have all the proffits ariseing from the said coynage and to be at any time ready to deliver one and twenty shillings, in the said tokens, for every twenty shillings in silver, and to repay twenty shillings, in currant sterling money, for every twenty-one shillings of the said tokens as shall be brought to them. Convenient quantities of the said tokens to be sent to as many cities, towns and other places, in Ireland, as they shall think fitt. In witness whereof, &c. witness ourself at Westminster, the fourteenth of December, in the twelfth yeare of our raigne.

By the King.

Child.

By the Lords Justices and council.

Maurice Eustace, Canc. Orrery. Mountrath.

No. LIV. Whereas the king's most excellent majesty, by his letters of the thirtieth of November last hath signified to us, that he is informed that there is a great scarcity of coin in this his kingdom of Ireland, which must be the occasion of the decay of trade, and very great inconveniencies which usually accompany the same; that it hath been offered to his majesty, as an expedient for the present, to raise such outlandish coin as is now current here to a higher value, and to depress that part thereof which is of the baser sort to a less value; and his majesty (in his gracious care and tenderness of his good subjects of this kingdom) being desirous (as much as in him lies) to remedy such evils as are upon his people here, by his said letters authorizes us to take the premisses into our serious consideration, and do therein as we should find most expedient for the good of his people and his service; we therefore (in humble obedience to his majesties royal commands) having taken the same into our consideration at this board, doe hereby publish and declare, that all and singular the several species, sorts and kind of coins following, viz. The Golden Rider, the Half golden Rider, the Spanish and French quadruple Pistole of gold, the Double-pistol, the Single-pistol, and Half-pistol, the Double ducCAT of gold and Single-duccat, and Spanish Suffrain of gold, and Spanish Half-suffrain. The Piece of Eight of silver Mexico or Civil, Rix-doller, Cross-doller, French-lewis and old Peru, and their several halves, quarters and half-quarters, the Portugal Royal, and the half and quarter thereof, the Duccatoon, the Half-duccatoon, and the Quarter-duccatoon, and the Cardecue, that now are, or hereafter shall be brought into this kingdom, shall, on and from the second day of February next, be allowed and pass in all payments, as well to and from his majestie as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom, as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money, and current of and in England, at the weights and rates following, viz. See page 50.

And in case any of the said pieces of gold or silver, made current by this proclamation as aforesaid, shall want of the weight herein laid down on the said pieces respectively, that then there be allowance given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three pence for each penny-weight, being four and twenty grains, so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, and so proportionable for greater or lesser wants of weight in the said pieces: And in case such defect of weight as aforesaid shall be supplied in manner as aforesaid, then, and in such case, every piece so defective in weight as aforesaid, and that defect of weight so supplied in manner as aforesaid, shall be allowed and pass in all payments, as well to and from his majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom, as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money of and in England. And we do hereby declare, that no payment shall be made unto his majesty, nor any person or persons of what quality, nation or con-

A. D.

1660.

In a pamphlet called the Intelligencer, class, E. 2. tab. 4. No. 25. St. Sepulch. library.

dition soever, shall be enforced to receive any of the said several species, sorts or kinds of coins aforesaid, in any payment or payments whatsoever or otherwise, unless every such piece as aforesaid be of the weight above mentioned for such piece, or unless such allowance be given for defect of weight as aforesaid. And we require all mayors, sheriffs, portriffs, baylifs, and other chief officers of corporations, and all justices of peace, upon any difference arising for or concerning the due passing of any piece or pieces of gold or silver formerly, in this proclamation mentioned to pass in manner aforesaid, and in case of defect of weight, with the respective allowances aforesaid, that in all and every such cases of difference, they, and every of them, doe determine such difference according to the rules given by this proclamation. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-ninth day of January, 1660.

A. D.
1661.

C. O. B.
A. 42.

No. 134.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Mau. Eustace, canc. Orrery. Mountrath.

No. LV. Whereas among many other grievances under which his majesties subjects in this kingdom have laboured for several years past, before his majesties restauration: One was, that several persons, in all the cities corporate and market-towns throughout this kingdom, took a liberty, without any restraint to make a kind of brass or copper tokens, with such stamps as they pleased, in very great proportions, and vented them to the people for a penny each peece, in exchange, under pretence that when they should be called in or decryed, the persons who uttered them would receive them back again at the rates for which they issued them, whence followed, that for the value of every twenty pence, which the brass stood in, there was raised near about twenty shillings in pure silver coyn; and that done, and those brass tokens issued among the people, it came to pass that many of those that caused such tokens be so stamped and issued, kept out of the way, and so avoided the accepting or exchanging of the tokens they had so issued, to the great loss and disappointment of many poor people, and they or others having, by exchange of those tokens, possessed themselves of considerable sums of pure silver, have (as is supposed) exported the same out of the kingdom: We therefore do, by this proclamation, in his majesties name, forbid all persons from henceforth to buy or barter for any of the said tokens, or to issue any of them in any payments, other than to such who made them, or caused them to be made, under pretence that, when they should be called in or decryed, they would receive them back again at the same rates for which they issued them. And we do hereby publish and declare, that it shall not be lawfull for any person or persons whatsoever, (without special licence from his majesty in that behalf) to make or cause to be made any brass or copper money or tokens. And of this proclamation all persons whom it may concern, are required to take notice, as they desire to avoid the punishment which by the laws of this kingdom may be justly inflicted on the contemnners of his majesties authority. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the seventeenth day of August, 1661.

God save the King

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Mau. Eustace, C. Orrery. Mountrath.

A. D.
1661.
Dr. P. col-
lection.
v. i.

No. LVI. Whereas amongst many other grievances under which his majesties subjects in this his kingdom have laboured for several years past, before his majesties restauration: One was, that several persons in all cities corporate, and market-towns, throughout this kingdom, took a liberty, without any restraint, to make a kind of brass or copper tokens, with such stamps as they pleased, in very great proportions, and vented them to the people for one penny each piece in exchange, under pretence that, when they should be called in, or decryed, the persons who uttered them would receive them back again at the rates for which they issued them; whence followed, that for the value of every twenty pence which the brass stood in, there was raised near about twenty shillings in pure silver coyn: And that done, and those brass tokens issued among the people, it came to pass that many of those that caused such tokens to be so stamped and issued, kept out of the way, and so avoided the accepting or exchanging of the tokens they had so issued, to the great loss and disappointment of many poor people; and they or others, having by exchange of those tokens possessed themselves of considerable sums of pure silver, have (as is supposed) exported the same out of this kingdom, which is conceived to be one great cause of the present scarcity of silver coyn in this kingdom. We therefore do, by this proclamation, in his majesties name, forbid all persons from henceforth to buy or barter for any of the said tokens, or to issue any of them in any payments other than to such who made them, or caused them to be made, under pretence that, when they should be called in, or decryed, they would receive them back again at the same rates for which they issued them. And we do hereby will and require all those that made them, or caused them to be made as aforesaid, to receive them back again at the same rates for which they issued them. And we do hereby publish and declare, that it shall not be lawfull for any person or persons whatsoever, without special licence from his majesty in that behalf (which Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, hath, by letters patent under the great seal of England) to make or cause to be made, any brass or copper money or tokens. And of this proclamation all persons whom it may concern, are required to take notice, as they desire to avoid the punishment which by the laws of the kingdom may be justly inflicted upon the contemners of his majesties authority. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the thirteenth day of September, 1661.

Patent to Sir Thomas Vyner, bart. Robert Vyner, and Daniel Bellingham, for erecting a mint and coining silver money in Dublin.

A. D.
1662.
14 Car. II.
Auditor's
office, lib.
30. p. 5.

No. LVII. Charles the second by the grace of God king of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. To all to whom these presents shall come greeting. Whereas the minting, coining and uttering of small silver money hath been found to be of great and general use and benefit to our people of this our realme of Ireland, as well amongst tradesmen for the exchange

of monies in the course of their several trades as amongst other sorts of people, the scarcitie whereof is very prejudicial unto them, and more especially unto the poore and meaner sort; and upon due consideration had of a representation made unto us by our justices and privie counsell of this our kingdom of Ireland, after serious deliberation first had upon certaine proposalls presented unto them by our wel-beloved subjects, Sir Thomas Vyner, knight and bart. Robert Vyner, our gouldsmith, and Daniell Bellingham, of the city of Dublin, gouldsmith, concerning the mynting, coyning and uttering of small pieces of silver money to pass currant within this our kingdome of Ireland. And our said justices and counsell haveing recommended the same unto us as an affair which they conceive will tend to the advancement of our service and the good and ease of our subjects, and prevent many inconveniencies which may befall the people in this our kingdom, for want of small money for change, and for as much as for the effecting soe acceptable a service, wee conceive it requisite to erect and create a mint office in our citty of Dublin, for minting and coyning of all sortes of smalle silver money of the denominations of, or which shall run for groats, or foure penny pieces or under, which shall hereafter runn or passe within this kingdome as currant and lawfull money. As alsoe upon consideration had of the manifold and acceptable services, as well before as since our happy restauration to our kingdomes of England, Scotland and Ireland, performed and manifested unto us by the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, which we have taken into our princely consideration, and resolve to place such further markes of our bounty and favour upon them when opportunitie is offered, as may evidence our knowledge and acceptance of their said services and good affection unto us. Know yee therefore that wee, as well for the considerations aforesaid, and for divers other good causes and considerations, us thereunto especially moveing of our especiall grace, certaine knowledge and meere motion, and by vertue of our prerogative royall, by and with the advice and consent of our right trusty and wel-beloved counsellor Sir Maurice Eustace, knight, our chancellor of this our kingdome, and our right trusty and wel-beloved cozen and counsellor Roger earle of Orrery, our justices of this our said kingdome, are graciously pleased to erect, create and establishe a mint office to be kept in some convenient place within our citty of Dublin in this our realme of Ireland, for the minting and coining of all sorts of small silver moneys of the denominations of or running for groates or fower penny pieces or under, which shall be uttered runn or passe as currant or lawfull money within this kingdome, together with the offices and places of master and worker, warden, comptroller and assay-master of the said mint, and all other inferiour officers which our lieutenant, deputy, justices, and other the chiefe governour or governors of this our kingdome for the tyme being shall judge necessary or requisite to be employed in that service. And for us, our heires and successors, wee doe by these presents erect, create and establishe the said mynt-office and offices of master and worker, warden, comptroller and assay-master of the said

mint, with the other inferior officers which shall be found necessary and requisite to attend the same. And of our like especial grace, certaine knowledge and meere motion, wee doe hereby give and grant full power and authority unto the chiefe governour or governors of this our realme for the tyme being, to settle such reasonable allowances, stipends, fees, or rewards, unto the persons who shall bee appointed to execute the said offices or places; as alsoe to annexe or unite such of the said offices and places, and appoint such persons to execute the same as to them shall bee thought meete. And of our mere especiall grace, certaine knowledge and meere motion, and of our prerogative royall, by and with the advice and consent aforesaid, wee have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, doe give and grant unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, full, free and absolute lycence, power and authority, that they the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, by themselves, or by their or any of their deputies, workmen, factors or servants, shall and may, from tyme to tyme, dureing the terme of yeares hereafter in these presents mentioned and expressed make, mint or coyne, in the said mint office, such quantity or quantities of smale silver money of the denominations of, or running for groates, or fower penny pieces, or under, in manner hereafter mentioned, as may be conveniently by them issued amongst the subjects of us, and our successors within this realme, within the tearme of yeares herein after mentioned, and the same to utter, dispose, disperse and issue to and within this realme, according to the true meaning of these presents at any tyme within the terme of yeares herein after mentioned. And to the intent that the smale silver moneys to be made for the use of this our said realme of Ireland, may be distinguished from any others already made, or which hereafter shall bee made in any other place whatsoever, it is our will and pleasure, and we doe hereby command that without further and express lycence or authority to the contrary from us, or our successors, there bee noe other kinde of smale silver money minted, coyned or made, but onely Halfe-penny pieces, haveing upon one side a crowne, and the other a harpe; Penny pieces haveing on one side the effigies of our selfe or our successors, with a figure to distinguishe and denominate the same, and the harpe on the other side; Two-penny pieces haveing on one side the effigies of us, or our successors, with figures to distinguishe and denominate the same, and the harpe crowned on the other side; Three-penny pieces, haveing on the one side the effigies and title of us, and our successors, with figures to denominate and distinguishe the same, and the harpe crowned with the motto, *oblectat et reperat*, on the other side; and Groats or Fower-penny pieces, haveing on the one side the effigies of us, or our successors, with our title and figures to distinguish and denominate the same, on the one side, and the harpe crowned with the motto, *oblectat et reperat*, on the other side, or such other stamps, impressions, mottos, and inscriptions, as the lord lieutenant, deputy, justices, or other cheife governour

or governors, for the tyme being, shall direct, limit, or appointe, together with a privy marke, from tyme to tyme, to be sett upon every yeare at coyning and stamping of the same, to be devised and altred as shall be thought meete by the officers of our said mint, for the better discovery of the counterfeiting of any such small silver money. And that the same be made in our said mint-house with engines and instruments, by sworne officers and workemen, of such silver onely as shall be imported by or brought into this kingdome, in bullion, or any forreigne specie; and that the same be made according to the finenesse of the standard money in our kingdome of England, and be pixed, assayed, and approved by the proper officers of the said mint, in such manner as is usuall or accustomed in our said mint in the tower of London; and alsoe, that all the smale silver money soe to be minted, coyned, and made, bee minted, coyned and made after the rate or proportion of one ounce of halfe-penny pieces, two ounces of penny pieces, two ounces of two penny pieces, and three ounces of three-penny pieces, and fower ounces of groats or fower-penny pieces, in every pound, being twelve ounces troy-weight of standard silver, and that every pound weight of silver shall be in tale three pounds and tenn shillings of coyned money with the allowance or remedy of six penny weight, under or over in every pound weight, for the sheering and sizeing of the same, and for the fineness of the remedy of two penny weight better or worse in every pound weight of standard silver, that is to say eleven ounces, and two penny weight fine and eightene penny weight allay in every pound of troy-weight; which said smale money so coyned, minted and made, wee doe hereby, for us, our heires and successors, will, establishe and ordaine, shall runn, passe and be currant, and generally receaved for their respective denominations and estimations of half-pennies, pennies, two pences, three pences, and groats or fower penny pieces, in any payment betweene our subjects in our said kingdom, soe as noe person or persons be obliged (unless hee bee willing thereunto) to receive above two shillings of the said smale silver money in every twenty shillings, and soe after the same rate or proportion for greater or lesser summes. And to the intent and purpose, that the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, shall, and may have, and enjoy the full benefit and proffit intended unto them by this our grant, we doe by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, streightly prohibit and forbid all and every person and persons whatsoever, other then the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators or assignes, by themselves, or their servants, or deputies, to make or cause to be made any such small silver money, or any other small silver money in resemblance thereof, of what nature or kinde soever, to passe currant within this our kingdome, of the denominations, or estimated valuations of groates, or fower penny pieces, or under, or to make or use any engines or instruments whereby they may be made or wrought, or to use any other small silver money, engines or instruments, in resemblance of them, or any of them, or any other

small silver money whatsoever, of the denominations or estimated valuations of groats, or fower penny peeces, or under, or to use and utter other smalle silver money, which hath been or shall bee made for the use of any other partes of our dominions, or any other partes beyond the seas, and which hath been made either before or shall be made after the commenceing of these our letters pattents (excepting alwayes such smale silver money as uppon the thirtieth day of January, 1648, were currant, and have since been used in payments betwixt our subjects of this realme of Ireland, and smale silver money, which now is or hereafter shall bee currant in our kingdome of England upon forfeiture of all such small silver money, or other mixt mettall, or counterfeit moneys, which shall be made or used for small silver money, and of all such engines and instruments as shall bee soe made, used or found, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, and upon such further paines and penalties, and imprisonments, as by the lawes and statutes of this our realme of Ireland and our prerogative royall, can or may be inflicted upon them for their contempt and breach of our royall commandement in this behalfe, the one moyetic of all such forfeitures to be to us, our heires and successors, and the other moyetic thereof wee doe, for us, our heires and successors, give and grant unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, without any account to be given or rendered to us, our heirs or successors, for the same or any part thereof. And furthermore, for the better execution of this our grant, wee doe by these our letters pattents, for us, our heires and successors, give and grante unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, that they by themselves, their deputies, servants or factors, or any of them from tyme to tyme, and at all tymes hereafter, during the terme of yeares hereby granted, takeing a constable or other officer with him or them, shall or may enter into any ship, bottome, vessell, boat, house, shopp, warehouse, or any other place whatsoever, where they or any of them shall have cause to make search within this our realme of Ireland by water and land, as well within liberties as without, and there to trye and search by all wayes and meanes, for all such prohibited or counterfeit small silver money, engines, or instruments for coyning or makeing of the said small silver money, as shall bee brought from any other part of our dominions, or the parts beyond the seas, or be found to be made within this our realme of Ireland, contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents, and finding any such small silver money, instruments or engines, to arrest, seize, carry away, and detaine the same to the use in these our letters pattents before-mentioned and expressed, to have, hold, perceive, exercise and enjoy, all and singular the aforesaid powers, privileges, licences, grantes, authorities, and other the premisses unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, from the date of these our letters pattents for and dureing the whole terme of one and twenty yeares from thence next ensuing, and fully to be compleate and ended, yielding and paying unto us, our heirs and successors, the full and just summe of twelve peece of the said smale silver

money out of every pound troy weight of sterling silver which shall be soe minted, coyned or made, into smale silver moneys, dureing the said tearme of one and twenty yeares, which said twelve pence in every pound weight the officers of our mint aforesaid are from tyme to tyme, to deduct, retayne and keepe in their custody unto the use of us, our heires and successors, out of the said small silver money which shall be soe minted, coyned and made, out of every pound weight of money as aforesaid, without any further order or direction, or putting of the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, or any of them, their executors, administrators or assigns, unto any further or other accompt for, or in respect of the same, they the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators or assigns, from tyme to tyme, dureing the said tearme, defraying, paying and dischargeing, all and all manner of charges for the moneyers, workemen, instruments, tooles, coales, sallaries, house roome, and other materials and contingencies whatsoever, for or in respect of the mynting, coyning or makeing of the said small silver moneys, excepting the allowances to be made to the master and worker, warden, comptroller, assay-master, and other chiefe officers, who are to be paid by us. And further, of our more especiall grace, certaine knowledge, and meere motion, wee have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe give and grant unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assigns, the said office of master and worker of the said mint, to have, hold and enjoy the same, and especially such proffits, gaines, benefitts and advantages, as shall from tyme to tyme, dureing the said tearme of one and twenty years aforesaid, be made, gotten, raised or obtayned by the coyning, minting, makeing, issueing or exchangeing, of all such small silver moneys as shall by virtue of these presents be made in manner and forme aforesaid, to have, perceive, receive, enjoy, use and take the said proffits, gaines, benefits and advantages, to be raised, made, gotten or obteyned as aforesaid unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assigns to their sole, onely, and proper use and behoofe for ever, without any accompt or other thing to be given or rendered to us, our heires or successors, for or in respect of the same, excepting the said twelve pence in every pound weight of money to be deducted as is aforesaid. And to the intent that the said small silver moneys may be brought to a frequent and general use throughout this our realme of Ireland, for the good of our subjects, and that the just passeing of the same may bee maintained and continued, and consequently all inconveniencies avoided, which may otherwise happen either to our subjects in that our realme in generall, or unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators or assigns, contrary to our gracious intentions and meaning in these presents, our will and pleasure is, that there bee, from tyme to tyme, a convenient quantitie of all the said sorts of small silver money, made for the use of our said subjects in this our realme of Ireland, and that the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors,

administrators, deputies, factors and assignes, from tyme to tyme, doe make and send, or cause to be made and sent forth, such a convenient quantitie of them into as many countyes, cittyes, burroughs corporate, market townes, and other places, within this our realme, as they shall thinke fitt and necessary for the use and occasions of our subjects in this our realme, and that the same smale silver money be left in the hands of some responsible person or persons, in the said countyes, cittyes, burroughs corporate, market townes, and places as they shall thinke meete, to be by them disposed, exchanged or uttered to the inhabitants of the respective places of this our realme, and such others as shall bee there resident, or come thither, as cause shall require. And our will and pleasure alsoe is, that all justices of the peace, mayors, sheriffes, bayliffs, chiefe officers and governors, with the ministers, constables and other officers, of all places within this realme respectively, doe endeavour that the said smale silver money may be dispersed and uttered, and they may freely passe betwixt all our subjects, according to their respective denominations as is aforesaid, in the way of exchange, betwixt our subjects in this realme. And further, we doe hereby streightly charge and command all and singular justices of the peace, mayors, sheriffs, bayliffs, constables, headborroughs, customers, comptrollers, searchers, and all other our officers and ministers in this our realme, to whom it shall or may appertaine or concerne, to be aiding or assisting in all lawfull and convenient manner, unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, and their and every of their deputies, factors and servants, in the due execution of these our said letters patents, upon paine of our displeasure, and such other punishments and imprisonments as by the lawes and statutes of our said realme of Ireland, and our prerogative royall, can or may be inflicted upon them for their contempt, or offences in that behalfe. And we doe further, for us, our heires and successors, covenant and promise, that if, during the tearme hereby granted, it shall fall out that these letters patents shall in matter, forme, or by reason of any matter or thing therein, or otherwise, prove defective, shall not be and continue valid, firme and effectuell in the law against us, our heires and successors, we shall, from tyme to tyme, upon humble suite of the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, renew these our letters pattents, and grant others letters pattents, unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, to the effect and purport of these our letters patents which shall be valid, firme and effectuell in the law, against us, our heirs and successors. And of our further and more ample grace and favour, and meere motion, we doe, by these presents, authorize, command and require, that our lieutenant, deputy, justice, justices, or other cheife governor or governors of this our kingdome of Ireland, for the tyme being, upon the humble suite of the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, shall cause one or more releases, or pardons, from tyme to tyme, to be passed unto them, under our great scale of this our king-

dome, upon trying of the assay and pix of the said moneys being found agreeable unto the rules lymitted and prescribed by these letters pattents, and shall cause proclamations to be issued out in our name, and published in the severall countyes, cittyes and places, in this kingdome, for the better and more effectuall execution of the severall matters and things in these our letters patents, contained and expressed, more especially for declaring, authorizing and causeing the said small silver moneys to passe currant within our said kingdome, according to the true intent and meaning of these our letters patents. And we doe further, of our especiall grace, certaine knowledge and meere motion, grant unto the said Sir Thomas Vyner, Robert Vyner and Daniell Bellingham, their executors, administrators and assignes, that these our letters pattents, or the inrollment of the same, shall be in all things firme, valid, good, sufficient, or effectual in the law, against us, our heires and successors, as well in all our courts in this our kingdome of Ireland, as in any court in our kingdome of England. Notwithstanding, &c. In witnesse whereof wee have caused these our letters to be made pattents. Witnes the aforesaid Sir Maurice Eustace, knt. and Roger Earl of Orrery, our justices and governors of our said realme of Ireland. At Dublin the eight and twentieth day of Aprill in the fourteenth yeare of our raigne.

Ex' J. R.

Carleton and Exham.

Enter'd and examined
primo die Maij, 1662.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

A. D.
1662.
C. O. B.
A. 42.
No. 162.

Ormonde.

No. LVIII. Whereas by a proclamation, dated the twenty-ninth day of January, 1660, published by the late lords justices and council. See page 50.

And although the Mexico plate pieces, commonly known by the name of pillar pieces, be of equal fineness and greater weight than the rest of the Mexico or Civil pieces, yet many of the inhabitants of this kingdom do refuse to accept the same in payment of money, according to their respective value; we therefore do hereby publish and declare, that the said pieces, commonly known by the name of pillar pieces, and the half-pieces, quarter-pieces and half-quarter-pieces thereof, were included within the intent of the late proclamation, and were thereby made currant at several rates, answerable and proportionable to any other of the said Mexico or Civil pieces, Rix-dollars, or cross-dollars, mentioned in the said proclamation, according to the respective quantities thereof. And for more full satisfaction to his majesties people, we do hereby publish and declare, that all and singular the several sorts and kinds of the said Mexico pieces, commonly called Pillar-pieces, that now are, or hereafter shall be brought into this kingdom, shall from henceforth be allowed and pass in all payments, as well to and from his majesty, as otherwise howsoever, as currant money within this kingdome as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money, and currant of and in England, at such weights and rates respectively, as the said Mexico or Civil pieces, Rix-dollars, or cross-dollars, are

by the said late proclamation respectively to pass. And we do hereby declare, that no payment thereof shall be made unto his majesty, nor any person or persons of what quality, nation or condition soever, shall be inforced to receive any of the said Mexico pieces, commonly called Pillar-pieces, in any payment or payments whatsoever or otherwise, unless the whole piece thereof shall weigh seventeen penny-weight troy weight, and the lesser pieces thereof ratably and proportionably; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the nineteenth day of September, 1662.

God save the King.

By the Lord Lieutenant and council.

Essex.

No. LIX. Whereas information is given to us, the Lord Lieutenant and Council, that of late divers great sums of money have been secretly conveyed and transported out of this kingdom, contrary to the laws and statutes now in force in this realm, prohibiting the same, to the great impoverishing of this realm, and final consumption of the treasure thereof, if speedy remedy be not herein provided: We taking the same into consideration, have thought fitt strictly to charge and command, that all and every the laws, statutes, and ordinances heretofore made for keeping the coins of this realm within the same, shall be henceforth firmly and inviolably observed and kept, according to the tenor of them, and that no person whatsoever shall hereafter attempt to convey, carry or send, or cause to be conveyed, carryed, or sent out of this realm of Ireland, any money currant within this realm, nor any plate, bullion, gold or silver, wrought or unwrought, without the licence of us, the Lord Lieutenant and Council, excepting onely so much as shall be necessary for his reasonable expences, which he shall be bound to confess and discover whensoever he shall be thereunto warned or charged by any of his majesties searchers, under pain of incurring the forfeiture in and by said laws and statutes limited and appointed, the same being the forfeiture of the value of the money so carryed out of the realm, whereof the discoverer is by the said statutes to have the fourth part in such manner, as in the said statutes is expressed. And we do hereby strictly charge and command all searchers of his majesties ports in this realm, and all others to whom it shall appertain, that they be careful and vigilant in and about the full execution of all and singular the laws and statutes now in force in this kingdom, against the exportation of gold and silver out of this realm, according to the purport of them, as they tender their duty to his majesty, and will answer the contrary at their perils. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-eighth day of July, 1673.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

Essex.

No. LX. Whereas divers persons, in all or most of the cities, corporate and market towns in this kingdom, have taken a liberty without any restraint, to make in very great quantities a kind of brass or copper tokens, with such stamps as they pleased, and vented them to the people, some of the said tokens for a penny, and

A. D.
1673.
C. O. B.
A. 43.
No. 147.

A. D.
1673.
C. O. B.
A. 43.
No. 149.

some others for a half-peny each piece, to the great grievance of his majesties subjects; we therefore do by this our proclamation, in his majesties name, strictly charge and require all persons whatsoever, from henceforth to forbear to make or stamp, or cause to be made or stamped, any brass or copper, or other tokens whatsoever, without special licence from his majesty in that behalf, and hereof they may not fail, as they will answer the contrary at their perils. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the seventeenth day of October, 1673.

A. D.
1674.
E. of Essex's letters, MSS

Dublin Castle, Feb^r $\frac{10}{16}$ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

To the Lord Ranelagh.

My Lord.

No. LXI. Among the directions I sent by your lordship, there was one concerning Farthings, since you went there hath been a proposall offered to me which seems to be more reasonable than that which we discoursed when your lordship was here, I have therefore enclosed it to be considered on your side.

I am your most faithfull humble servant,

Essex.

To his excellency the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

It is humbly offered by the undertakers to furnish this kingdome with copper farthings and half-pence of the same weight and fineness with those of England, and by midsummer next to import such a quantitie of copper blocks or chipps as may possible with two presses, to be coyned by the spring ensuing.

The undertakers do further promise to be at all the charges of coynage, both for instruments, materialls, workmen, and others employed therein, as alsoe to be att all the hazard by sea or otherwise, for bringing in such a quantity of copper, and to give such impression or stamp as his Excellencie and this honourable board shall think fitt.

But whereas the copper blocks when brought from Sweden will cost within three pence half penny the pound weight of what they pass for when coyned, which is but little more than will pay the coynage and charges thereof, which his majestie takeing into consideration, ordered the summe of fifteen thousand pounds to pay for copper blocks to carry on the said work in England, and these undertakers not insisting upon any advance money, do in lieu thereof, crave an allowance of four hundred pounds *per annum* sallery, for three years, towards the charge and interest of their disbursements, and that the copper to be imported for this his majestie's service may be freed from the dutys of customes and excise, as the same is alsoe allowed in England.

Ibidem.

Dublin Castle, Feb^r $\frac{10}{16}$ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.

To Mr. Secretary Coventry.

Sir,

No. LXII. By a letter of his majestie's, dated 31 Aug. 72, power is given to my selfe and the councell here to raise the value of foreigne coyne; the words of the letter are these. 'As to what you and our councell there propose in your letter

of raising foreigne coyne, we have considered of that matter, and are of opinion with advice of our councell, and accordingly we will that you and the councell doe prepare such a proclamation for the raiseing or abateing foreigne coynes as you shall judge expedient for the good of that our kingdome, but that you forbare to issue it till you shall have first transmitted the same hether to us for our view and approbation.' Here are a sort of Portugal money called crusados weighing fourteen penny weight; there are alsoe another species of crusados weighing but eleven penny weight, which two sorts have of late gone promiscuously at three shillings a piece, the reason of it was this, those of fourteen penny weight being the onely sort which then came over hither were by public proclamation appointed to pass at three shillings and eight pence. The merchants who traded into those countrys bringing over a great quantity of the worser sort, the stamps whereof being like, uttered them at three shillings and eight pence, but the people finding the fraud, and that these wanted in them one fifth part of the silver would take neither the one or the other at more then three shillings, so as the inconvenience from hence arises that when any of the weightier sort are given in payment, the goldsmiths finding their profit melt them down, by which means the coyne is diminished. Now there being a considerable trade between this kingdome and Portugall, and probable some quantity of this money will be brought over. We have considered the matter, and doe conceive it for the benefit of the country that this money have it's due value according to its several species, the plate pieces of Mexico, weighing seventeen penny weight, which is the generall money of the kingdome, and therefore may properly be taken for a standard to the rest, pass for four shillings and nine pence, at which rate a Portugal piece weighing fourteen penny weight, considering weight and fineness of silver, is worth near three shillings and eleven pence, but to avoid fractions in payments the proclamation fixes it at three shillings and ten pence, and in regard we doe limit it to the full weight there cannot be either injustice or inconvenience in any kind to raise it to this value; and for your better information I have herewith inclosed a piece of each coyne, you may please to propose it to his majestie that I may have his approbation, according to forme for issuing out his proclamation, &c.

I am your most faithfull humble servant,

Essex.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Councell.

Whereas the Kings most excellent majestie being informed, that there is a great scarcitie of coyne in this his majesties kingdom of Ireland, and that by means thereof all commerce in course is much hindred, and many inconveniencies may befall the publick if some timely remedy be not applyed, and it being offered to his majestie, as a present expedient, that the values of some sort of foreigne coyne which have been lately made currant in this kingdome may be raised to a higher rate. And his majestie haveing been graciously pleased to take the same into his princely consideration, and by letters under his royall signett and signe manuall, bearing date at his court at Whitehall, to signifie unto us his royall will and pleasure, that we should raise

that sort of foreigne coyne, commonly called Portugall Crusados, weighing fourteen penny weight, from three shillings unto three shillings and ten pence, and the halfe Portugall Crusados, weighing seven penny weight unto one shilling eleven pence, and that we should cause his majesties good pleasure therein signified towards his good people, to be made publick, and the said foreigne pieces of coyne to be made currant, according to the rate aforesaid, within this his majesties kingdom of Ireland. Now we the Lord Lieutenant and Councell, in all humble obedience to his majesties royall commands, doe hereby publish and declare, that all and singular these pieces of foreigne coyne, commonly called the Portugall Crusados, weighing fourteen penny weight, which now are, or shall at any time, from and after the date of this proclamation, be brought into this kingdom, shall from and after the date of this our proclamation, be allowed, accepted, and pass in all payments, as well to and from his majestie as otherwise however, between party and party as currant moneys within this kingdome, at the rate of three shillings and ten pence, as fully and freely to all intents and purposes as if the same were sterling and currant moneys of and in England, and that the halfe Portugall Crusados, weighing seven penny weight be allowed, accepted, and pass in all payments at the rate of one shilling and eleven pence currant money in like manner, to all intents and purposes within this kingdom, as if the same were sterling money currant of and in England; and in case any of the said pieces made currant by this proclamation, shall want of the weight therein laid downe for the said pieces respectively, that then there be allowance given of three pence for each penny weight, being twenty-four graines so wanting in any of the aforesaid pieces respectively, and so proportionably for greater or lesser want of weight in the said pieces, and in case such defect of weight as aforesaid, shall be supplied in manner as aforesaid, then and in such case every peece so defective in weight as aforesaid, shall be allowed, and pass in all payments, as well to and from his majestie, or otherwise however, as currant money within this kingdome as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money currant of and in England. And we doe hereby declare, that no payment shall be made unto his majestie, nor any person or persons of what quality, nation, or condition soever, shall be forced to receive any of the several pieces of coyne aforesaid, in any payment or payments whatsoever, or otherwise, unless every such piece as aforesaid be of the weight abovementioned for such piece, or unless such allowance be given for defect of weight as aforesaid, and we require all maiors, sheriffs, portreevs, bayliffs, and all other chiefe officers of corporations, and all justices of peace, upon any difference ariseing or concerning the passing of any the pieces of silver formerly, and in this proclamation mentioned, to pass in manner as aforesaid, and in case of defect of weight, with the respective allowances aforesaid, that in all and every such cases of difference they and every of them doe determine such differences according to the rates given by this proclamation. Given, &c.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Mich. Dublin, C. Art. Forbese.

A. D.
1675.
C. O. B.
A. 43.
No. 158.

No. LXIII. Whereas information is given unto us, the Lords Justices and Council, that divers great summes of money have been of late secretly conveyed and transported out of this kingdom, contrary to the laws and statutes now in force, prohibiting the same, to the great impoverishing of the realm, and final consumption of the treasure thereof, if not speedily prevented: Now we the Lords Justices and Council, taking the same into our consideration, have thought fit to will and require, and to hereby strictly charge and command, that all and every the laws, statutes, and ordinances heretofore made for the keeping the coyns of this realm within the same, be henceforth duely and inviolably observed, according to the tenor of them, and that no person or persons whatsoever, shall hereafter attempt to convey, carry or send, or cause to be conveyed, carryed or sent out of this realm, any money whatsoever, currant within this realm, nor any plate, bullion, gold or silver, wrought or unwrought, without the licence of us, the Lords Justices and Council, excepting onely so much as shall be necessary for his and their reasonable expences, which he and they shall be bound to confess and discover, whensoever they shall be thereunto warned or charged by any of his majesties searchers, under pain of incurring the forfeitures in and by the said laws and statutes limited and appointed, the same being the forfeiture of the value of the money so carryed out of the realm, whereof the discoverer is by the said statutes to have one fourth part, in such manner as in the said statutes is expressed, which we shall take care for their encouragement shall be duely satisfied accordingly: And we do hereby further require, and strictly charge and command all searchers of his majesties ports in this realm, and all others his majesties officers and ministers to whom it shall appertain, that they and every of them be carefull and vigilant in and about the full and due execution of all and singular the laws and statutes now in force in this kingdom, against such as shall export any gold or silver out of this realm, against the purport and tenor of the said statutes, and that they endeavour to bring them to condign punishment for the same, as they tender their duty to his majesty, and will answer the contrary at their utmost peril. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the six and twentieth day of July, 1675.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

Essex.

A. D.
1677.
C. O. B.
A. 43.
No. 212.

No. LXIV. Whereas we are informed, that divers merchants, strangers and others, have lately brought into this kingdom, several pieces of Dutch coyne, commonly known by the name of New-lyon dollars, stamped with a lyon rampant on the one side, and a man with an eschutchion covering his lower parts, and a lyon charged in it on the other side, coyned in the years 1674, 1675, or 1676, with this motto, *Confidens Domino non movetur*, and the year of our Lord in the same round, with the motto over the head of the lyon, and that

they by themselves, their agents, or factors, have dispersed and uttered the same in payments amongst his majesties subjects, at the rate of foure shillings and nine pence per piece, as money allowed to be issued in trade and commerce. And whereas we have caused some of the said pieces to be tryed and essayed by the essay master of this city, and do find that the said pieces are worse than his majesties standard of England, by two ounces five penny weight upon the pound weight; and that these new dollars are intrinsically worth no more than three shillings and foure pence one farthing sterling, and (in proportion to the Spanish money commonly current here) worth three shillings and nine pence. And whereas none of the said pieces, nor any of that kind and species have been at any time allowed by his majestie, or by proclamation from us the Lord Lieutenant, or any of his majesties former chief governors and council of this kingdom, to pass as current money within this kingdom, and yet are commonly paid off (as we are informed) at the rate aforesaid. Now we the Lord Lieutenant and Council, duely weighing the premisses, and the many inconveniencies which by such fraudulent practices may befall his majesties good subjects if not timely prevented, have thought fit to publish and make known the same by this our proclamation, and hereby to caution and advise, that none of the officers or ministers of his majesties revenue, or any other person or persons of what nature, quality, or condition soever he be, is or are, by any law, required or inforced to take or receive any of the said pieces, commonly called New lyon dollars, stamped in manner aforesaid, in any payment or payments whatsoever, and hereof we require all manner of persons, who are or shall be there in any wise concerned, to take special notice at their perils. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the ninth day of April, 1677.

A. D.
1680.
Auditor's
office, lib.
xxvii. P.
154.

Abstract of a patent of King Charles II. to Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel Legg, for coining copper half-pence.

No. LXV. Charles the second, &c. Whereas we did, by our letters pattents under our great seale of England the fourteenth of December in the twelfth year of our raigne, grant unto Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, lately deceased, full power, &c. for coyning farthing tokens of copper, and whereas Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, his son hath humbly petitioned and represented unto us, that neither his father nor himself were ever admitted to make use of the said grant, nor obtayne allowance from the chief governor of Ireland to issue the said farthing tokens as our royall coyne amongst our subjects of that kingdom, and that having laid out considerable sums of money for copper and the working thereof into farthings, and other incidentall charges they have susteyned great losse and damage; in consideration whereof we do hereby, with the advice and consent of our beloved cozen and counsellor James duke of Ormonde, our lord lieutenant general and general governor of Ireland, for us, our heirs and successors, grant, and by these our letters pattents, give unto the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel George Legg, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, full

power, &c. during the terme of twenty-one years from the date hereof to make and coyn such quantity of copper half-pence, as they may conveniently issue during the said terme among our subjects of Ireland. The said copper half-pence to, be made of copper by engines, having on one side the figure or effigies of our head stampd thereon, and on the other side the impression of an harpe crowned, with this inscription round before and on the reverse, *Carolus secundus Dei gratia magn. Brittan, Franc. & Hibern. Rex*, and each to weigh one hundred and seven grains troy weight: which copper half-pence we do hereby for us, our heirs and successors, ordayne shall pass and be generally used between man and man as half-pence within this kingdom of Ireland; forbidding all other persons whatsoever to make or counterfeit, or import such copper half pence or engines, under paine of forfeiture of the same, or such other punishments as the law may inflict. All officers, justices and magistrates ordered to be aiding and assisting the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel George Legg, in the due execution of the premisses; they paying unto us, our heirs and successors, yearly, dureing the abovesaid term, the sum of sixteen pound thirteen shillings and four pence sterling, in two payments, viz. on the twenty fourth of June and twenty-fifth of December. The said pattentees to have all the profits ariseing from the said coynage, and to be at any time ready to deliver the sum of twenty shillings in copper half-pence for every twenty shillings in sterling money, which any of our subjects of Ireland shall be willing to give or disburse for the same, and to repay twenty shillings in sterling money for every twenty shillings of the said half-pence as shall be brought to them. Convenient quantities of the said half-pence to be sent to as many cities, towns, and other places in Ireland as they shall think fit. Witness our said Lieutenant-generall and generall governor of our said kingdom of Ireland, at Dublin, the eighteenth day of May, in the thirty-second year of our reign.

Domvile.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

Ormonde.

No. LXVI. Whereas his majesty, by letters patents under his great seal of Ireland, bearing date the eighteenth day of May, in the two and thirtieth year of his reign, hath been graciously pleased to grant unto Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, and colonel George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns, full, free, and absolute licence, power and authority, that they by themselves, or by their sufficient deputy or deputies, workmen and servants, should (during the terme of one and twenty years, to commence from the date of the said letters patents) make in some convenient place or places, at his or their and every of their pleasures and appointment such quantity of half-pence of copper, as might by them be issued amongst his majesties subjects in this his majesties realm of Ireland, during the time aforesaid, and them to utter, issue, disperse, and dispose of within and throughout the said kingdom. And to the intent the said copper

A. D.
1680.
C. O. B.
A. 43.
P. 271.

half-pence might be distinguished from any other which have been made or might happen to be made in any other place or places whatsoever, hath declared his royal will and pleasure, and commanded that the said half-pence should be made of copper, haveing on the one side, the figure or effigies of his majesties head stampd in copper, and on the other side the stamp or impress of an harp crowned, with this inscription round before and on the reverse side, *Carolus secundus Dei gratia Magnæ Britanniae Franciæ & Hiberniæ Rex*. And whereas his majesty, in and by his said letters pattents, hath willed and ordained that the said copper half-pence so made should weigh, each half-peny, one hundred and ten grains troy weight, and that the same should be generally used by all his subjects, and others in this his kingdom of Ireland, as tokens of the value of half-pence within this kingdom; and to the intent that the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns, respectively, might have and enjoy the full advantage, benefit and proffit intended them by his majesties said grant, his majesty hath graciously pleased, in and by his letters patents, straightly to forbid and prohibit all and every person and persons whatsoever, other than he the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and the said George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns, their deputies, agents and servants, to make or counterfeit any such copper half-pence, or to make or use any engines, stamps or instruments, whereby they may be made, or to make or use any other tokens, engines, stamps or instruments, in resemblance of them, or any other tokens whatsoever, or to use or utter any other half penny tokens, pence or farthing tokens, or copper pieces, or brass pieces, or pieces of any other metal, which have been or shall be made for tokens, for the use of any part of his majesties dominions, or any parts beyond the seas, or which shall have been made, either before, or shall be made after, the date of his majesties said letters patents, within this his majesties said kingdom of Ireland, or in any other parts, or to import or bring into this his majesties realm of Ireland, any half pence, pence, or farthing tokens, or copper or brass pieces, or pieces of any other metal, which have been or shall be made in any parts beyond the seas, to be used as tokens, upon pain of forfeiture of all such half penny tokens, farthing tokens, or other tokens, or pieces of copper or brass, or other metal, which hath been or shall be made and used as tokens, and of all such engines, stamps, and instruments, as should be so made, used, or found, contrary to his majesties said letters patents, and upon such further pains, penalties and imprisonments, as by the laws and statutes of this realm, and by his majesties prerogative royal, may be inflicted upon such persons for their contempt and breach of his majesties royal commands in this behalf, the one moyety of all such forfeitures, to be to his majestie, his heirs and successors, and the other moyety to the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns respectively. And whereas his majesty, in and by his said letters patents, hath further granted unto the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns, respectively, that they by themselves, their deputies, servants and agents, or any of them, may from time to

time, and at all times, during the said term of twenty-one years (calling a constable or other officer with him or them) enter into any ship, bottom, vessel or boat, or into any house, shop, cellar, warehouse, or any other place whatsoever, within this kingdom, where they or any of them shall have cause to make search by water or land (as well within liberties as without) and there to try and search by all ways and means for all counterfeit half-pence, farthing tokens, and pence, and other tokens of brass or copper, or other metal whatsoever, which have been made or shall be used as tokens, or any engines, stamps, or instruments, that are already made, or shall at any time after the date of his majesties said letters patents be made for the making, coining, stamping or casting of any farthing tokens, half-pence or pence whatsoever, or as shall be brought from other parts of his majesties dominions, or the parts beyond the seas, or found to be made within his majesties said realm of Ireland, contrary to the meaning of his majesties said letters patents, and that finding any such tokens, copper or brass pieces, instruments, stamps or engines, to arrest, seize, and carry away and detain the same, to the uses in his majesties letters patents beforementioned. These are therefore, in his majesties name, straightly to command and forbid all manner of persons whatsoever, that they and every of them do forbear to import, make, stamp, cast, coyn, utter, or receive, any copper half-pence, or copper pence, or farthing tokens, or any other tokens whatsoever, of any sort of metal, or pieces of copper or brass by way of change or otherwise, or to have or use any engines, stamps or instruments, whereby such copper half-pence, or pence, or farthing tokens, or other piece of copper or brass may be stamped, coined, made, or uttered, or used amongst his majesty's subjects in this kingdom, contrary to his majesties will and pleasure declared in and by his majesties said letters patents, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost perils, save only the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and the said colonel George Legg, their deputies, agents and servants, who are hereby required to make such a convenient quantity of the said copper half-pence for the use of his majesties subjects, and to take care that each of them do weigh one hundred and ten grains troy weight, as in his majesties letters patents are directed, and to send such proportions of them into as many cities, burroughs, corporate and market towns of this kingdom, as they shall think convenient for the use of his majesties subjects, in this kingdom, the same to be left in the hands of some discreet person or persons whom they shall appoint to be vended and uttered amongst the inhabitants of the respective cities, burroughs, counties and places of this realm; and in case any of his majesty's subjects shall happen to be surcharged, in the course of their trades, with more of the said copper half-pence, than they can utter, then the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, and the said colonel George Legg, their deputies, agent, and servants, are in pursuance of his majesties said letters patents hereby required to deliver at any time during the time aforesaid, the summe of twenty shillings, currant monies, for every summe of twenty one shillings returned in the same copper half-pence

unto such person and persons who shall so happen to be surcharged, and so after that rate for all greater summes. And we do further, in his majesties name, straightly command and require, that the aforesaid copper half-pence, which have been and shall be made, by his majesties royal authority, according to his majesties said grant (and no other token whatsoever) be uttered, used, received, accepted and taken in all dealings, whereby exchange of small money is necessary between man and man, as currant monies, according to the value of half-pence, within this kingdom. Yet so as none of his majesties subjects are hereby compelled to receive of the said copper half-pence in any payment of money above five shillings in one hundred pounds, and so proportionably in all greater or lesser summes: And the chief officers and governours, with the ministers and constables of all places within this realm respectively, and also the farmers, collectors and receivers of his majesties revenue of this kingdom for the time being, are hereby required to endeavour that the said copper half-pence may be uttered and dispersed throughout the kingdom; and that they be freely received and pass in use betwixt man and man for the value of half-pence in the way of exchange, as is before expressed. And we do further, in his majesties name, straightly charge and command all and singular mayors, sheriffs, justices of the peace, constables, head-boroughs, controllers, customers, and searchers, and all others his majesties officers and ministers, to whom it shall or may appertain, to be aiding and assisting in all lawful and convenient manner unto the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel George Legg, their executors, administrators and assigns, and their and every of their deputies, factors, agents and servants, in the due execution of the premisses, upon pain of his majesties high displeasure, and such punishments and imprisonments, as by the laws and statutes of this realm, and his majesties prerogative royal, can or may be inflicted upon them for their contempt in that behalf. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the nineteenth day of July, 1680.

By the Lord Deputy and council.

A. D.
1683.
C. O. B.
A. 43.

Arran.

No. LXVII. Whereas many and great inconveniencies have happened to his majesties subjects of this kingdom, by the difference of weights that have been of late made use of for the weighing of such forreign coyn, as hath been made currant here by proclamation, as also by the bringing over into this kingdom great quantities of Peru pieces of eight, which for some time did commonly pass without any regard to their weight, for four shillings and six pence a piece, which was more than their real value, and of late many of them have been refused to be taken for more than three shillings, or three shillings and six pence a piece, which is less than their real value, whereby many of his majesty's subjects have been at great loss, which hath been chiefly occasioned for want of taking due notice of the several proclamations now in force, whereby such forreign coyn is made currant; which are most of them out of print, and not easily

to be had; and we being desirous to remedy a mischief that may prove so prejudicial to the trade and traffique of this kingdom, by such incertainty in the coyn now currant here; have thought fit by this our proclamation, to declare at what rates all sorts of forreign coyne, by the several proclamations now in force are to pass amongst his majesties subjects in this kingdom, which are as followeth. See page 55.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver, shall want of the weight herein laid down on the said pieces respectively, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three pence for each penny weight so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, and so proportionably for greater or lesser wants of weight in the said pieces: and in case such defect of weight as aforesaid, shall be supplied in manner as aforesaid, then and in such case every piece so defective in weight as aforesaid is to be allowed and to pass in all payments, as well to and from his majesty as otherwise howsoever as currant money within this kingdom, as fully and as freely as if the same were sterling money, and currant of and in England. And we do also hereby declare, that all the aforesaid sorts of forreign coyn being standing weight, are to pass, and are to be paid and received at the rates abovementioned, and any such coyns not weighing down the scales in the weighing thereof, is not to be any cause for the refusal thereof at the rates herein abovementioned. As also that every person receiving any money shall receive by what side of the scales he pleases, if he uses those of the payer, and if he uses his own, then he is to receive by which side the payer shall think proper to direct. And to the end there may be no incertainty in the weights of money, we do hereby further declare, that we have directed all the weights that are necessary for the said silver coyn, to be exactly made by Henry Paris and John Cuthbeard, of the city of Dublin, the stamps to be flat, and the circle to be smooth and polished, that no dust may gather in, and each weight to be stamp't with the number of the penny weights it bears on one side, and the crown and harp on the other side, where the same may be had at reasonable rates, not exceeding twelve pence for all the weights being eight in number, *viz.* for the ducatoon, half-ducatoon, for the whole plate and Peru pieces, and half and quarter pieces thereof, a two penny weight, a penny weight, and a half-penny weight, which are all that will be necessary for weighing the several sorts of silver coyn that do now commonly pass in this kingdom. And we have ordered a standart of all sorts of the said weights for silver coyn to be left in the hands of the respective sheriffs of the several counties of this kingdom, and also in the hands of the respective mayors, and other chief magistrates of the several cities and corporations of this kingdom, by whom the same are to be left in succession with the next succeeding sheriffs, mayors, and other magistrates, to the end that all differences that shall happen about any weights for money, may thereby be either determined or prevented. And in case any person

or persons shall either pay or receive any money by any other weight than such as shall be agreeable to the weights so to be left in the said sheriffs, mayors, and other chief magistrates hands, they are to be proceeded against and punished according to the law, as keepers and users of false and unlawfull weights. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the sixth day of June, 1683.

God save the King.

A. D. 1680. Abstract of a deed of assignement of a power to coyn half-pence to Sir John Knox, knight.
 Rolls of No. LXVIII. This indenture, made the seventeenth day of June, in the thirty-second of King Charles II. &c. between Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, &c. George Legg, Esq; &c. the right honourable Richard Earl of Arran, and Sir Nicholas Armorer, knight, &c. on the one part, and John Knox, of the city of Dublin, alderman, of the other part. Whereas the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, knight, deceased, and the said George Legg, did obtain from his majesty a reference to James duke of Ormond, lord lieutenant of Ireland, for renewing a patent formerly granted to the said Armstrong for making farthing tokens in Ireland. And whereas the said Thomas Armstrong and George Legg, by writing under their hands and seals, the twenty ninth of November, 1678, did constitute, &c. Richard Earl of Arran, and Sir Nicholas Armorer, their attorneys, &c. to get the said reference, and obtain from the Duke of Ormond, allowance for passing such new grant for the making farthing tokens and half-pence, and issuing the same in Ireland, and surrendering the former patent, and to treat and conclude with any person, for their interest in the said new patent (when past) by agreement either by yearly income, rent, or for such sum of money as they their said attornies shall think fit, and to perfect, &c. such deed, &c. as shall be requisite, &c. in consideration of which care, &c. the said Armstrong and Legg, did grant to the said Earl of Arran and Nicholas Armorer, one third part of all the profits of such letters patents, after deduction of all charges relating to the same, &c. And whereas his majesty, &c. by his letters patents, &c. of the eighteenth of May last past, hath given, &c. to the said Sir Thomas Armstrong and colonel George Legg, &c. full and absolute power, &c. during the tearme therein mentioned to make, &c. such quantities of half-pence of copper, &c. (*recites the whole patent.*) Now this indenture witnesseth, that the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, George Legg, Richard Earl of Arran, and Sir Nicholas Armorer, in consideration of the sum of one thousand five hundred pounds of lawfull money, &c. well and truly paid, &c. by the said John Knox, have granted and set over, &c. to the said John Knox, &c. all such power, &c. to coin, stamp, disperse, utter, &c. of copper half-pence within the kingdom of Ireland as are granted to them, &c. in and by the said recited letters patents, in as full, &c. manner, &c. as they, &c. might or could doe by the said letters patents; to have, &c. all and singular the said powers, &c. receive, &c. all such profits, &c. as shall be made, &c. during the remainder of the said twenty-one years. And the said John Knox, &c. doth

covenant, &c. during the said term to pay, &c. perform, &c. all the rents, reservations, &c. And the said Sir Thomas Armstrong, &c. for themselves, &c. do covenant, &c. that they will at any time hereafter, during the said term, at the cost of the said John Knox, procure as often as shall be necessary, from the chief governor of Ireland, a proclamation for the better execution of the said letters patents, and the passing of the said half-penny tokens, and suppressing all other tokens, instruments, &c. And that if the said Armstrong, &c. doe, within the said term, procure any other patent, &c. for coining any other farthing, half-penny or penny, that the said John Knox, &c. shall have the full benefit thereof, during the said term without any fine, &c. in witness whereof, &c.

Abstract of a warrant for renewing letters patents to alderman John Knox.

James R.

No. LXIX. Most reverend father in God, and right trusty and right well-beloved cousin and councellor, we greete you well. Whereas the late king, &c. did by letters patent, &c. of the eighteenth of May, 1680, &c. grant unto colonel Legg, now lord Dartmouth, and Sir Thomas Armstrong, &c. power, &c. to make and utter such a quantity of copper half-pence, as might be issued in Ireland, within the term of twenty-one years, &c. (*recites the conditions of the grant*) And whereas John Knox, of Dublin, alderman and assignee, &c. hath, as we are informed, been at great expence in providing copper, &c. and has humbly prayed us that we would accept of a surrender of the former patent and to grant him a new one, for the term unexpired of the former grant, under the same yearly rent, restrictions, &c. as in the said former patents, with this alteration only, of the figure of our head to be stamped on the one side, and the inscription of, *Jacobus Dei gratia magnæ Britaniæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex*. And we having referred the consideration of this matter to our high treasurer of England, and seen his report, together with the report of our attorney general of Ireland, in the words following, &c. Our will and pleasure is, and we doe hereby require you, &c. that you give such orders, &c. for accepting a surrender of the former patents, &c. and that thereupon you cause new letters patents to be forthwith passed under the great seale of that our kingdom, and with the advice of some our council learned in the law there, containing an effectual grant from us, &c. unto the said John Knox, &c. of a free, &c. licence from us, &c. that he the said John Knox, by himself, &c. may, during the number of years granted by the former patents yet unexpired, make such quantity of half-pence of copper, as may be issued in that our realme, as our lawfull coyne, &c. *See the abstract of the patent*. Given at our court at Whitehall, the twenty third day of October, 1685, in the first year of our reign.

A. D.
1685.
Rolls of
fice,
Dublin.
Inrol. 2
Dec. 1
Jac. II.

By his majesty's command,
Sunderland.

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A. D. 1685. Abstract of a patent King James II. to Sir John Knox, for coining copper half-pence.

Auditor's office, lib. 1. p. 53. No. LXX. James the second, &c. To all, &c. Whereas the late king, &c. did by letters patents bearing date the eighteenth of May in the thirty-second year of his reign did grant unto colonel George Legg, now lord Dartmouth, and Sir Thomas Armstrong, deceased, full power to coin copper half pence for the use of this our kingdom of Ireland. And whereas there is a great want of small coyne for exchange, and John Knox, alderman, and now lord-mayor of the city of Dublin, assignee to the said lord Dartmouth and Sir Thomas Armstrong, hath been at great expence in provideing copper and other materials for the making of the said half-pence, and hath surrendered the former patent; we do by these our letters pattents grant unto the said John Knox, his executors, administrators and assigns, full power, during the remainder of the term granted by the above said former patent to coyn such quantitie of copper half-pence as he can conveniently issue among our subjects of the said kingdom. The said half-pence to be made of copper by engines, having on one side the figure or effigies of our head, and on the other side, the stamp of an harp crowned, with this inscription round before and on the reverse, *Jacobus secundus Dei gratia magnæ Britanniæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex*. Which copper half-pence we do hereby for us, our heirs and successors, ordayne shall pass and be generally used between man and man as tokens, for the value of half-pence, within this kingdom, forbidding all other persons whatsoever to make, counterfeit, or import, such copper half-pence or engines under paine of forfeiture thereof, or such other punishment as the law may inflict. All officers, justices and magistrates ordered to be aiding and assisting the said John Knox, in the due execution of the premisses, he paying unto us, &c. the sum of sixteen pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, in two payments, &c. and that he shall have all the proffits ariseing from the said coynage, and to be ready at any time to deliver the sum of twenty shillings of the said copper half-pence for every twenty shillings in sterling money, which any of our subjects of Ireland shall be willing to give or disburse for the same, and to repay twenty shillings in sterling money for every twenty shillings of the said copper half-pence as shall be brought to him. Convenient quantities of the said half-pence to be sent to as many cities, towns and other places, in Ireland, as he shall think fitt. Witness our aforesaid lords justices at Dublin, the twenty-ninth day of December, in the first year of our raigne.

Domville.

By the Lord Deputy and Council.

A. D. 1687. Tyrconnel.

Dr.P.col- No. LXXI. Whereas a proclamation issued from the late lord deputy and lection, v. council of this kingdom, concerning the weighing of such forreign coyn as hath i. p. 347. been made currant here; which proclamation followeth in these words. (*recites verbatim the above proclamation, which I think needless to repeat, and then concludes*) And whereas we are informed that many of his majesties subjects do not

conform themselves to the rules and directions prescribed by the said proclamation for the paying and receiving of the said forraign coyns therein mentioned, and do refuse to accept of the payment of the said coyn by standing weight as by the said proclamation is directed. And least the neglect of the due observance of the said proclamation may be occasioned by its being now out of print, and not easily to be had for the perusal of his majesties subjects, we the Lord Deputy and Council have thought fit to cause the same to be herewith reprinted, and do hereby require all his majesties officers, ministers and loving subjects, whom it may concern, punctually to observe and conform themselves to the several rules and directions prescribed by the aforesaid proclamation, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost perils. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the sixteenth day of January, 1687.

By the King.

James R.

No. LXXII. Whereas we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to raise the coyn of this our kingdom to a higher value; we do hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that all sorts of coyn now currant in this our kingdom, whether forreign or sterling, shall pass amongst all our subjects within this our realm, and in all payments to be made either to us or from us, according to the rates following; that is to say. See page 56 and 57.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver, which are foreign, and outlandish coyn, shall want of the weight herein laid on the said pieces respectively, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three pence for each penny weight so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, and so proportionably for greater or lesser wants of weight in the said pieces. And in case such defect of weight as aforesaid shall be supplied in manner as aforesaid, then and in such case every piece so defective in weight as aforesaid, and that defect of weight so supplied as aforesaid is to be allowed, and to pass in all payments, as well to and from us, as otherwise howsoever, as currant money within this our kingdom, as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money, and currant of and in England. And we do hereby declare, that all the aforesaid coyn, which are foreign coyn, being standing weight are to pass, and are to be paid and received at the rates herein above-mentioned, and that any such coyns not weighing down the scales in the weighing thereof is not to be any cause for the refusal thereof at the rates herein above-mentioned: As also, that every person receiving any money shall receive by what side of scales he pleases, if he uses those of the payer, and if he uses his own, then he is to receive by which side the payer shall think fit to direct. And to the end there be no incertainty in the weights of money, we do hereby publish and declare, that the same methods be observed in the said weights as is directed by proclamation issued in this kingdom on the sixth day of June, in the year 1683, in the time of the government of Richard Earl of Arran, lord deputy of Ireland. Given at

A. D.
1689.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 68.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
i. p. 393.

our court at Dublin-castle, the twenty-fifth day of March, 1689, in the fifth year of our reign.

By the King.

A. D.
1689.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 76.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
ii. p. 2.

James R.

No. LXXIII. Whereas we have, by our royal proclamation formerly published and declared, that all forreign coyn now currant in this our kingdom should pass amongst our subjects within this our realm, according to the rates in the said proclamation mentioned. And whereas there is a forreign coyn now in this our kingdom of small pieces of silver, called the French three pence half-penny, or the three sou's and half sou's, which sort of coyn is omitted in the said proclamation, so that it is not yet ascertained at what rate the same shall pass: we do therefore hereby publish and declare, by the advice of our privy council, that every piece of the said small pieces of silver called the French three pence half penny, or three sou's and half sou's, are to pass for three pence half-penny, and are to be paid and received in all payments to be made by us, and to us, or otherwise howsoever, as currant money within this our kingdom at the rates aforesaid. Given at our court at our castle of Dublin, the fourth day of May, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

A. D.
1689.
Book of
orders, J.
R. Aud.
office,
Dublin.
P. 3.

James R.

No. LXXIV. Our will and pleasure is, that you forthwith goe to the several place or places where stamps, presses or coyning mills are, which with the several instruments belonging to the coynage you are to secure, under your respective scales, in some safe place soe as none can come at or meddle with the same without your consent; as also to secure, in the same manner, any quantity of brass or copper casten, rounded or fitted to the mill, and if you shall find any persons at work at the said mills, for our service, coyning brass or copper money, any two of you shall remain beside the said workmen to see that what is coyned bee duely aplyed to our use and noe other, and at your leaving off the said coynage, you are to secure the houses, tooles and instruments as is abovesaid, taking an exact account of the pieces coyned, and securing them in the like manner; you shall call to the officer of our guard for any assistance that may be necessary; for doing all which this shall bee your warrant. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, this nineteenth day of June, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

By his majesty's command,
Melford.

By the King.

A. D.
1689.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 78.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
ii. p. 5.

James R.

No. LXXV. Whereas, for remedy of the present scarcity of money in this our kingdom, and that our standing forces may be the better paid and subsisted, and that our subjects of this realm may be the better enabled to pay and discharge the taxes, excise, customs, rents, and other debts and duties, which are or shall be hereafter payable to us; we have ordered a certain quantity of copper and brass

money to be coyned to pass currant in this our kingdom during our pleasure, in six penny pieces; each piece having of one side the effigies or figure of our head, with this inscription round, *Jacobus II Dei gratia*, and upon the other side, the stamp or impression of cross-scepters and a crown between J. R. with VI above, the moneth wherein they are coyned below, with this inscription round, *Mag. Brit. Fran. & Hiber. Rex. 1689*, and fringed round, each of the said pieces to be of the metal of copper and brass; all which pieces of money we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to make currant money within this our kingdom. We do therefore hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that the said pieces of copper and brass coyned, or hereafter to be coyned by our said order marked and stampd as aforesaid, shall pass during our pleasure, as currant money amongst all our subjects within our realm, and in all payments to be made either to us, or from us, or to or from any of our subjects within this kingdom, according to the rates following; that is to say, each of the said pieces called six penny pieces, marked and stamped as aforesaid, to pass for six pence; the said pieces to pass at the rates aforesaid in all payments, excepting the duties of customs and excise upon the importation of forreign goods into this kingdom, money left in trust or keeping with any person, and excepting mortgages, and debts now due by record, or by bills, bonds, or obligations, and that the same shall also pass currant at the rates aforesaid, for the interest which hereafter shall fall due for such mortgages and debts due by records, bills, bonds, or obligations, and likewise for any of the said principal debts so secured where the debtor or his goods are, or shall be taken in execution for the same; and we do hereby strictly charge and command all and every of our subjects of this kingdome to take and receive in all payments to be made to them (excepting as aforesaid) the said pieces of money according to the rates aforesaid, hereby declaring that such of our subjects within this kingdom as shall refuse to receive the said pieces of copper and brass money at the rates aforesaid (excepting as aforesaid) being tendered to them for payment, shall be punished according to the utmost rigour of the law, as contemnners of our royal prerogative and command. Provided always, that this our proclamation shall not be construed, to oblige any merchant or merchants, importing any goods into this kingdom, to receive upon the first sale of such goods so imported, any of the said copper or brass money: And whereas we have caused the said copper and brass money to be made currant money for present necessity, and therefore do not intend that the same shall continue for any long time. We do, by this our royal proclamation, promise and engage to all our subjects here, that as soon as the said money shall be decried and made null, that we shall thereupon receive from all and every our subjects within this kingdom such proportion of the said money as shall be, and remain in their respective hands at the time the same shall be so decried and made null; and at the same time either allow for the same to them the value thereof, at the rates aforesaid, out of what rent, duties or debts, they respectively shall owe to us, or to make them full satisfaction for the same according to the rates aforesaid, in gold or silver of the currant coyne of

this kingdom. Given at our court, at Dublin-castle, the eighteenth day of June, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

By the King.

A. D.

1689.

C. O. B.

A. 44.

p. 81.

Dr. P. col.

lection, v.

ii. p. 8.

James R.

No. LXXVI. Whereas, for remedy of the present scarcity of money in this our kingdom, and that our standing forces may be the better paid and subsisted, and that our subjects of this realm may be the better enabled to pay and discharge the taxes, excise, customs, rents, and other debts and duties, which are or shall be hereafter payable to us; we have ordered a certain quantity of copper and brass money to be coined to pass currant in this our kingdom during our pleasure, in six penny pieces; which several pieces we have, by our proclamation, commanded to pass for currant money within this kingdom. And whereas, since the date of the said proclamation, we have ordered a further quantity of copper and brass money to be coined to pass currant in this our kingdom, during our pleasure, in twelve penny pieces, and half-crown pieces; each piece of the said twelve penny pieces having of one side the effigies or figure of our head, with this inscription round, *Jacobus II Dei gratia*, and upon the other side, the stamp or impression of cross-scepters and a crown between J. R. with XII above, the month wherein they are coined below, with this inscription round, *Mag. Brit. Fran. & Hiber. Rex.* 1689, and fringed round, and each of the said half-crown pieces to be marked and stamped as the said twelve penny pieces, only that on the said half-crown pieces instead of XII shall be marked xxx. each of the pieces to be of the metal of copper and brass. All which pieces of money we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy-council, to make current money within this our kingdom. We do therefore hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that the said pieces of copper and brass coined, or hereafter to be coined by our said order, marked and stamped as aforesaid, shall pass during our pleasure, as currant money amongst all our subjects within this realm, and in all payments to be made either to us or from us, or to or from any of our subjects within this kingdom, according to the rates following; that is to say, each of the said pieces called twelve-penny pieces marked and stamped as aforesaid, to pass for twelve pence; and each of the pieces of the said pieces called Half-crown pieces to pass for two shillings and six pence; the said pieces to pass at the rates aforesaid in all payments excepting money left in trust or keeping with any person, and excepting mortgages, and debts now due by records, bills, bonds, or obligations; and that the same shall also pass currant at the rates aforesaid, for the interest which hereafter shall fall due for such mortgages and debts, due by records, bills, bonds or obligations, and likewise for any of the said principal debts so secured, where the debtor or his goods are, or shall be taken in execution for the same; and we do hereby strictly charge and command all and every of our subjects of this kingdom, to take and receive in all payments to be made to them (excepting as aforesaid) the said several pieces of money according to the rates aforesaid, hereby declaring, that such of our subjects within this kingdom as shall refuse to receive the

said several pieces of copper and brass money at the rates aforesaid (excepting as aforesaid) being tendered to them for payment shall be punished according to the utmost rigour of the law, as contemners of our royal prerogative and commands. And we do hereby publish and declare, that if any person or persons whatsoever will presume to counterfeit the said money, or any of the said pieces, that he or they, so offending, shall be proceeded against as persons guilty of high-treason; and in case any person or persons whatsoever, will discover any such offender or offenders so as he or they be brought to condign punishment, we do hereby engage that such discoverer or discoverers shall have for their recompense the one moiety of the estate, real and personal, of the person or persons that shall be so found guilty of counterfeiting the said money or coyne, provided the value of the said estate will amount to forty pounds sterling or more, and if the value of the said estate be under forty pounds, such discoverer or discoverers shall have for their service herein the sum of twenty pounds sterling. And for the better prevention of counterfeiting the said coyn, we do hereby strictly charge and command all persons whatsoever, that they or any of them do not presume to import into any part of this realm any of the said coyn, or of the said copper and brass money, under the highest penalty, forfeiture, or confiscation, that any law in this kingdom can allow or warrant; and if any person or persons shall at any time hereafter discover the importing of the said coyn into this realm, we do hereby engage that such person or persons so discovering shall have the full moiety of all forfeitures and confiscation that shall accrew to us, by reason of the said importation; and that there may be no pretence for the importing of any of the said coyn into this kingdom, we do hereby strictly charge and command all persons whatsoever that they or any of them do not presume to export any of the said coyn or pieces of copper and brass money into any other country whatsoever, hereby declaring, that whosoever shall offend herein, shall be prosecuted according to the utmost rigour of the law: And whereas, by the said former proclamation for making the said six penny pieces currant within this kingdom, it is provided, that we shall not be obliged to take the said six penny pieces in the payment of the duty payable to us for forreign commodities imported into this kingdom; and that the first seller of such forreign goods or commodities, shall not be obliged to take the said six penny pieces in any payment to be made to him on such sale. We do hereby revoke the said clauses, and that the remaining part of the said proclamation shall be and remain in full force, and that the said six penny pieces shall be taken in all payments, in such manner and under the same exceptions as the twelve penny pieces and the said half crown pieces, are made currant by these presents; and whereas we have caused the said copper and brass money to be made currant money for present necessity, and therefore do not intend that the same shall continue for any long time. We do by this our royal proclamation promise and engage to all our subjects here, that as soon as the said money shall be decried and made null, that we shall thereupon receive from all and every our subjects within this kingdom such proportion of the said money as shall be, and remain in their respective hands at the time the same shall be so decried ✓

✓ and made void ; and at the same time either allow for the same to them the value thereof at the rates aforesaid, out of what rents, customs, excise, duties or debts, they respectively shall owe to us, or make them full satisfaction for the same according to the rates aforesaid, in gold or silver of the currant coyne of this kingdom. Given at our court at our castle of Dublin, this twenty-seventh day June, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

By the King.

A. D.
1689.
C. O. B.

James R.

A. 44.
p. 120.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
ii. p. 45.

No. LXXVII. Whereas we have by former proclamations of the eighteenth and twenty-seventh days of June last, for the reasons therein set forth; ordained and declared, that a certain coyn made, by our order, of a certain metal mixed of copper and brass, marked and stamped as in the said proclamations is expressed, in six penny, twelve penny, and half crown pieces, should, during our pleasure, pass as currant money among all our subjects within this realm, according to the rates and values in the said proclamation mentioned, and in all payments to be made either to us or from us, or to or by any of our subjects within this kingdom, excepting mortgages, bills, bonds or obligations, debts due by record, and money heretofore left in trust or keeping with any person : And whereas it hath been represented to us, that such restrictions upon the said coyn is a great hindrance to trade and industry, and to the circulation of the said money, in regard men of trade and industry cannot have credit without passing bonds or judgements, which since they cannot satisfy by the said money, they are therefore the less industrious to acquire it by the sale of any of their goods or merchandises, as are also the generality of all others, because when they have acquired any quantity thereof, they cannot thereby pay their debts, nor clear their estates from incumbrances ; wherefore we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, further to declare and ordain, that the aforesaid money made of a mixture of copper and brass as aforesaid, shall hereafter, during our pleasure, pass as currant money within this realm, not only in all payments in the said former proclamations mentioned, but also in all the said payments of bills, bonds, debts by record, mortgages, and all other payments whatsoever in the said former proclamations excepted. And whereas this is ordered, at this time, to supply the present scarcity of money, and remedy the great inconveniences which would otherwise ensue, we do therefore hereby promise and declare to all our loving subjects, that as soon as the said money shall be called in, and decreed, we shall thereupon not only receive from all our loving subjects within this kingdom such proportion thereof as shall be in their hands at such time as it shall be so decreed, according to the value for which it now passes, in satisfaction of any rents, customs, excise, debts, or duties which they shall owe to us ; but also where no such debts, or duties, shall not be due to us, we will make full satisfaction for the same, in gold or silver of the currant coyn of this kingdom. Given at our court at Dublin castle, the fourth day of February, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

James R.

No. LXXVIII. Our will and pleasure is, that you forthwith deliver to the commissioners of the mint those two brass canons now lying in the court of this our castle, marked, &c. weighing, &c. and for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, this eleventh day of July, 1689, and in the fifth year of our reign.

A. D.
1689.
Book of
orders.
R. Aud.
office,
Dublin.
p. 5.

To our trusty and wel-beloved cozen
and counselor Justin Lord Vis-
count Mount Cashel, master ge-
neral of our ordnance.

By his Majesty's command,
Melfort,

July the 15th, 1689

The following letter was sent to all the collectors of his majesty's revenue through-
out the whole kingdom, viz.

Ibidem.
p. 11.

Sir,

No. LXXIX. We have great occasion for his majesty's use to procure as much hamered or forged copper and brass as your parts can afford, and judging, by the decay of trade and desolation of the country, that there may bee a great deale in your district or port, we desire you, by yourself and officers, to informe us presently what quantity you may bee able to furnish us with, and what the currant prices are of each. And whatever you can gett, buy at the best rates you can, and as soon as you have four or five hundred weight, pray send it to us the commissioners of his majesty's mint, at the mint-house in Capel-street, Dublin, and what you pay shall bee allowed you in your accounts at the customhouse, so doing you'll oblige,

Yours, &c.

Dublin-castle, July the 4th, 1689.

Ibidem.

No. LXXX. It is his majesty's pleasure, that one six pence in the pound
bee given in copper for all silver money or gold that shall be brought to the
mint, the silver being given in to the currant value and full weight, all such
silver as come in or gold, is to be attested by two commissioners of the second
class, or by one of them and one of the wardens. His Majesty will give his
further orders under his hand; in the mean time you are to proceed to take what
money comes in.

p. 3.

To the commissioners of
his majesty's mint.

Melfort.

By the King.

James R.

No. LXXXI. Whereas it hath been represented unto us, that several persons
have lying by them considerable summs of the copper and brass money now currant
within this our kingdom, which they cannot dispose of to their advantage, by reason
of the decay of trade and commerce, occasioned by the present rebellion; we being
desirous to give all the relief and reasonable satisfaction we can to all our loving

A. D.
1689.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 125.

subjects, and for the future to coyn no more of the said money than shall be absolutely necessary for our service, and convenient for the welfare of our people, have thought fit, with the advice of our privy council, to declare, and we do hereby declare, that our will and pleasure is, that all persons shall and may be at liberty, by way of loan, to pay into our treasury any sums of the said money, or of any other money, which is, or shall be currant within this our kingdom. And we do hereby declare, and promise, that all such persons, their executors, administrators and assigns, shall upon demand be repaid the sums of money so by them respectively paid by way of loan out of our treasury in money currant within this our kingdom, at the time of making such demand; and until payment be so made, shall likewise have and receive out of our said treasury, interest, at the rate of six pounds for each hundred pounds by the year, to be paid at the end of every six months. And we do hereby require, and authorize our receiver, or receivers general for the time being, to accept of all sums of money as shall be from time to time brought in, or tendred to him or them, pursuant to this our declaration, provided no one sum so tendred be less than one hundred pounds, and to give receipts for the same, expressing the sum so paid in, by way of loan, the name of the person who payeth the same, and the time of payment, and to get such receipts enter'd and signed by the secretary of the lords commissioners of our treasury and the accomptant general of our revenue, and likewise, without further warrant from us, to repay the respective sums so lent or payd in, and the interest thereof in manner aforesaid without any delay, fees or deductions whatsoever. And whereas for the better incouragement of such persons as shall advance their mony pursuant to this our declaration, we are graciously pleased that they may be secured the payment of their principal and interest mony upon our crown rents and quit-rents of this our kingdom, and in regard it may be chargeable to the persons concern'd to take out letters pattents for the same, we do further declare and promise, that we will forthwith by letters pattents under our great seal of this our kingdom in due forme of law, grant and convey unto the lords commissioners of our treasury, all our crown rents and quit rents of this our kingdom, in trust for all such persons for the due payment of their principal and interest mony as aforesaid, and will further authorize and cause our said lords commissioners, or any three or more of them in execution of such trust, to assigne over or secure unto such persons respectively for their security, a competent proportion of the said crown-rents and quit-rents; and we do hereby declare and promise, that in case any such persons shall judge it necessary to have our further grant and confirmation thereof to them and their heires respectively, we will, at the request of every such person, grant and confirm the same by letters pattents to be passed under our great seal of this our kingdom according to the true intent and meaning of these presents. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, the twenty-eighth day of February, 1689, and in the sixth year of our reign.

By the King.

James R.

A. D.
1690.
C. O. B.
A. 44. p.
137.

No. LXXXII. Whereas by our former declaration of the twenty-eighth day of February last, we did for the reasons therein mentioned, publish and declare, that all persons should be at liberty, by way of loane, to pay into our treasury, any summ or summs of copper and brass money, or other currant money in this our kingdom, and that all persons should upon demand be repaid the summs of money so by them respectively lent out of our treasury in money currant within this our kingdom, at the time of making such demand, and untill payment so made should receive interest out of our treasury according to six per cent. for every hundred pounds by the year, and that the principal and interest should be secured upon our crown-rents, and quit-rents, as by the said declaration, (relation being thereunto had) may more at large appear: And whereas the interest of money lent in this our kingdom is generally payd according to ten pounds for the forbearance of every hundred pounds yearly, and we being desirous that such of our subjects as will pay any summ or summs of money into our treasury, by way of loane, should have as much profit thereby as they may have by lending the same to any of our subjects; have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to declare, and we do hereby publish and declare, that such person or persons as shall bring any money into our treasury, by way of loane, shall be allowed and paid interest for the same according to ten pounds yearly for the forbearance of every hundred pounds during the time the same shall remain unpaid, and that the principal and interest shall be secured to the person or persons so lending any summ or summs of money, at his or their election, either upon our crown-rents and quit-rents, as by our said former declaration is directed, or upon lands, mortgages, or incumbrances belonging unto us. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, the ninth day of June, 1690, and in the sixth year of our reign.

James R.

No. LXXXIII. Our will and pleasure is, that you cause to be coyned for our use severall pieces of coyne of two sorts to pass currant in this our kingdom of Ireland; the one about the biggness of a shilling to be made of white mix'd mettall haveing of one side the effigies or figure of our head, with this inscription round about it, *Jacobus vidus Dei gratiâ*, and on the other side haveing a piece of princes mettall fix'd in the middle with the stamp or impression of the harpe and crowne and this inscription round about it, *Mag. Bri. Fra. et Hib. Rex*, with the year of our lord; which piece is to pass for a penny; and the other piece about the biggness of a six pence to be made of the like mettall and stamp of both sides, in like manner, and with the inscription aforesaid, and to pass for a half-penny, hereby giving you full power and authority to coyne the said two pieces from time to time till fur-

A. D.
1689.
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orders J.
R. p. 41.
Aud. offic.
Dublin.

ther order. Given at our court at Dublin castle, the first day of March, 1689, and in the sixth year of our raigne.

To our trusty and well-beloved
the commissioners of our mint
in our kingdom of Ireland.

By his majesty's command,
Rich. Nagle.

By the King.

A. D.
1690.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 124.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
ii. p. 53.

James R.

No. LXXXIV. Whereas for remedy of the present scarcity of pence and half-pence in this our kingdom, we have ordered a certain quantity of mixed money to be coyned to pass currant in this our realm, dureing our pleasure, in penny pieces and half penny pieces; each piece of the said penny pieces about the bigness of one shilling, having of one side the effigies or figure of our head, with this inscription round, *Jacobus secundus Dei gratia*; and upon the other side, having a piece of prince's metal fixed in the middle, with the stamp or impression of the harp and crown, and this inscription round, *Mag. Br. Fra. et Hib. Rex*, with the year of our Lord, and each of the said half penny pieces about the bigness of a six-pence to be marked and stamped as the said penny pieces, the said pieces to be of white mixed metal: all which pieces of money we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to make currant money within this our kingdom. We do therefore hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that the said pieces of white mixed metal coyned, or hereafter to be coyned by our said order marked and stamped as aforesaid, shall pass during our pleasure, as currant money amongst all our subjects within this our realm, and in all payments whatsoever to be made either to us, or from us, or to or from any of our subjects within this kingdom, according to the rates following; that is to say, each of the said pieces called penny pieces, marked and stamped as aforesaid, to pass for one penny, and each of the said pieces, called half-penny pieces, to pass for a half-penny, the said pieces to pass at the rates aforesaid in all payments, whatsoever: And we do, hereby, strictly charge and command all and every of our subjects of this kingdom, to take and receive in all payments to be made to them, the said several pieces of money according to the rates aforesaid, hereby declaring that such of our subjects within this kingdom, as shall refuse to receive the said several pieces of mixed money at the rates aforesaid, being tendered to them for payment, shall be punished according to the utmost rigour of the law as contemnners of our royal prerogative and command: And whereas we have caused the said mixed money to be made currant for present necessity, and therefore we do not intend that the same shall continue for any long time; we do by this our royal proclamation promise and engage to all our subjects here, that as soon as the said money shall be decried and made null, that we shall thereupon receive from all and every of our subjects within this kingdom such proportion of the said money as shall be and remain in their respective hands, at the time the same shall be so decried and made void, and at the same time either allow for the same to them the value thereof at the rates aforesaid, out of what rents, duties, or debts they respectively shall owe unto us, or make them full satisfaction for the same

according to the rates aforesaid, in gold or silver of the currant coyn of this kingdom. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, the twenty-eighth day of March, 1690, and in the sixth year of our reign.

By the King.

James R.

A. D.
1690.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 134.

No. LXXXV. Whereas for remedy of the present scarcity of money in this our kingdom, and that our standing forces may be the better paid, and our subjects of this realm the better enabled to pay and discharge the taxes, excise, customs, rents, and other debts and duties which are or shall be hereafter payable to us, we have ordered a certain quantity of white mixed metal to be coyned in crown-pieces, each piece of the said crown-pieces having on the one side our effigies or figure on horse-back, with this inscription round, *Jac. II. Dei gra. Mag. Bri. Fra. & Hib. Rex;* and on the other side having a piece of prince's metal fixed in the middle, with the stamp or impression of the crown surrounded with the arms of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, with this inscription round, *Christo victore triumpho, anno Dom. 1690;* and round about the edge of each such piece having this inscription, *Melioris tessera fati, anno regni sexto:* All which pieces of money so coyned, we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to make current money within this our kingdom. We do therefore hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that the said pieces of white mixed metal coyned or hereafter to be coyned by our said order, marked and stamped as aforesaid, to pass for five shillings in all payments whatsoever. And we do hereby strictly charge and command all and every of our subjects of this kingdom, to take and receive in all payments to be made to them, the said several pieces of money according to the rate aforesaid; hereby declaring, that such of our subjects within this kingdom, as shall refuse to receive the said several pieces of money according to the said rate, being tendered to them for payment, shall be punished according to the utmost rigour of the law, as contemners of our royal prerogative and command. And we do hereby further publish and declare, that if any person or persons whatsoever will presume to counterfeit the said money, or any of the said pieces, that he or they so offending, shall be proceeded against as guilty of high treason. And in case any person or persons whatsoever will discover any such offender or offenders, so as he or they be brought to condign punishment, we do hereby engage, that such discoverer or discoverers shall have for a recompence, at his or their election, either the summ of twenty pounds sterling for their service herein, or the one moiety of the estate, real and personal, of the person or persons that shall be found guilty of counterfeiting the said money or coyn: And for the better prevention of counterfeiting the said coyn, we do hereby strictly charge and command all persons whatsoever, that they or any of them, do not presume either to import, into any part of this realm, or export into any other country whatsoever any of the said coyn or money of white mixed metal under the highest penalty, forfeiture, or confiscation, that any law in this kingdom can warrant or allow: And if any person or persons shall, at any time hereafter, discover the

importing of any of the said coyn into this realm, or the exporting thereof into any other country, we do hereby engage that such person or persons so discovering, shall have the full moyety of all forfeiture and confiscation that shall accrew unto us, by reason of such importation or exportation. And whereas we have thought fit, for publick convenience, to reduce the twelve penny pieces and half-crown pieces of copper and brass money hereafter to be coyned to a lesser weight than formerly, without any alteration of the impressions or superscriptions, and yet the said pieces to continue at the same value, that the like pieces passed at hitherto, we do hereby publish and declare, by the advice aforesaid, that the said twelve penny pieces, and half-crown pieces hereafter to be coyned, shall pass at the same value with the like pieces of copper and brass money formerly coyned, though not of equal weight. And whereas we have caused the said several sorts of coyn of copper and brass, and white mixed metal, to be made current money for present necessity, and therefore do not intend that the same shall continue for any long time; we do by this our royal proclamation promise and engage to all our loving subjects here, that as soon as the said money shall be decried and made null, we shall thereupon receive from all and every of our subjects within this kingdom such proportion of the said money as shall be and remain in their respective hands, at the time the same shall be decried and made void, and at the same time either allow to them the value thereof, at the rates aforesaid, out of what rents, customs, excise, debts or duties, they respectively shall owe to us, or make them full satisfaction for the same according to the said rates, in gold or silver of the currant coyn of this kingdom. Given at our court at Dublin-castle, the twenty-first day of April, 1690.

By the King.

A. D. 1690. James R.
C. O. B. No. LXXXVI. Whereas we have for weighty reasons, with the advice of our privy council, thought fit to call in all the half-crown pieces of copper and brass money, which appear by the stamp upon them to have been coyned within this our kingdom, before the month of May last, yet so as our loving subjects, who have such money in their hands, may thereby suffer no loss, but receive other current money in exchange thereof from the commissioners of our mint; our will and pleasure is, and we do hereby, with the advice aforesaid, order and declare, that no half-crown of copper and brass money, which hath been coyned before the said month of May, shall pass or be current money in any payment within the city or county of the city of Dublin, from or after the last day of this present month of June, nor in any other part of the province of Leinster after the fifteenth day of July next, nor in any other part of this our kingdom after the last day of July aforesaid; and our further will and pleasure is, and we do hereby strictly charge and command the commissioners of our mint in our cities of Dublin and Limerick, to receive and exchange all such half-crown pieces as shall within the time aforesaid be brought into them, by paying to the persons that shall bring in the same, the like summ of other current money, and that without any delay or deduction whatsoever; and for the ease

of such persons as live in places far distant from the said cities of Dublin and Limerick, and have but small summs of the said money in their hands, we do require the several collectors and receivers of our revenue to exchange in like manner all such half-crowns as shall within the time aforesaid be brought into them; and in case they have not money enough of ours in their hands to pay in exchange thereof, to give assignments for the same upon our receivers generals, who are hereby required to make present payment upon such assignments. Given at our court at the castle of Dublin, the fifteenth day of June, 1690, and in the sixth year of our reign.

By the King.

James R.

No. LXXXVII. Whereas for the more speedy supply of money to defray our present great and necessary expences, we have ordered a quantity of copper and brass to be coyned into crown pieces, each piece having on the one side our effigies or figure on horseback, with this inscription round, *Jac. II Dei gra. Mag. Bri. Fra. & Hib. Rex*, and on the other side the arms of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, with a crown in the middle and this inscription round, *Christo victore triumpho*, 1690, our will and pleasure is, and we do hereby, with the advice of our privy council, order and declare, that the said pieces of copper and brass so coyned or to be coyned by our said order mark'd and stamp'd as aforesaid, shall, during our pleasure, pass as currant and lawfull money amongst all our subjects within this realme of Ireland, and likewise in all payments to be made to us, or from us, or to or from any of our subjects within this kingdom, according to the rates following, that is to say, each of the said pieces to pass for five shillings in all payments whatsoever, hereby strictly charging and commanding all our subjects within this our kingdom, to take and receive the said pieces, at the rate aforesaid, in all payments to be made to them, and forbidding all persons whatsoever to counterfeit the same, upon pain of being proceeded against as persons guilty of high treason. And we do by this our royal proclamation promise and engage, that whensoever the said money shall be decryed or called in, we shall thereupon receive from all persons such proportion thereof as shall then remain in their hands, and at the same time either allow them the value thereof, according to the rates aforesaid, out of what rents, duties, or other debts they shall respectively owe unto us; or make them full satisfaction for the same according to the said rates, in coyne then currant in this our kingdom.

Given at our court at our castle of Dublin, the fifteenth day of June, 1690, and in the fifth year of our reign.

By the King.

James R.

No. LXXXVIII. Whereas we are informed that several covetous persons, who have a greater regard for their own private interest, than for the publick good, have

A. D.
1690.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
P. 140.
Dr. P. collection, v.
ii. p. 62.

C. O. B.
A. 44.
P. 141.
Dr. P. collection, v.
ii. p. 65.

given of late intolerable rates for gold and silver, and continue their sinister practices, to the great disparagement of the brass and copper money now current in this our kingdom; for prevention whereof, we have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to charge and command, and we do hereby strictly charge and command all our subjects of what rank and condition soever, within this our kingdom, that they or any of them do not hereafter presume, upon pain of death, to give any higher or greater rate, for any Pistole or French Lewis of gold, than thirty shillings in brass or copper money, and so in proportion for any other piece of French or Spanish gold; nor for any piece called a Guinea-piece of gold more than thirty-eight shillings of brass or copper money, and so in proportion for any other piece of English gold; nor for any crown-piece of silver more than seven shillings and six pence of brass or copper money, and so in proportion for any other piece of silver. And we do hereby further publish and declare, that whosoever shall discover any person or persons that shall offend against this our ordinance, he shall upon making out the same have for his reward and to his own use, all the gold and silver so by him made out to have been sold or exchanged, by any person or persons whatsoever, above the rates herein prescribed, and contrary to this our royal proclamation. And we further strictly charge and command all our judges, justices, magistrates, justices of the peace, all sheriffs and other our officers both civil and military, to take particular care that the persons who shall transgress in the matters aforesaid, be brought to condign punishment, as they and every of them shall answer the contrary at their peril. Given at our court, at our castle of Dublin, the fifteenth day of June, 1690, and in the sixth year of our reign.

1689.
Book of
orders J.
R. Aud.
office,
Dublin.
p. 25.

Sir,

Limerick, January the 4th 1689.

No. LXXXIX. Last Tuesday the carriages parted from hence with six thousand six hundred weight of gunn mettles, six hundred a quarter and two pounds of fine pewter, and a thousand weight of steele, they will be eleven or twelve days a going because the roads are very deep.—The pewter cost ten pence per pound and steele six pence. You may expect very soone a farther supply of mettles for I have made an agreement with two eminent dealers from Corke who have five or six thousand weight of copper and brass which they are to send here. I must have an order from the lords of the treasury, for sending it to your mint; there are foure or five broken bells in the country, which I can have if you send an order for seizing them for the king's use; there is an useless cannon at Gallway, and one or two at Kingsaile; I forgot to send you some of our coyne as you desired, by the next occasion I will not faile; I cannot buy fine pewter now under eleven or twelve pence the pound, for they say that you give fourteen or fifteen pence in Dublin, the rates for carriage from hence to Dublin is eight shillings the hundred weight. I rest your humble servant,

To John Trindar, Esq.

Wat. Plunkett.

Waterford, December the 10th, 1689.

Ibidem.
p. 26.

No. XC. I send you by Thomas Commins carryer the quantities of brass, copper and battety underwritten; you were pleased to order my buying of pewter, upon which I desired to know what I must give, to which I had no answer. I likewise advised that I had a parcell of new and old pewter belonging to absentees, and desired to know if you would have it sent, &c.

I am,

To the chiefe commissioners of
his majesties mint.

your honours most humble servant.
Gre. Rice.

Athlone, February the 9th 1689.

Ibidem.
p. 33.

No. XCI. This day the mettall was weighed ("35 0 24 lb. by numb. at the bottom of this letter") and delivered to the carmen mentioned in the last letter, there is five hundred weight of the last gun they could not carry, and some brass that I have bought, and some brass belonging to absentees, which will be here in a few days and shall be sent by the first carrs that I can procure.

I am, your honour's most humble servant.

To the honourable J. Trindar, Esq;
chiefe commissioner of his majesties
mint.

Chr. Nicholson.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Charles Porter. Tho. Comingsby.

A. D.
1690.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 174. &
A. 45. p.
39.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
ii. p. 94.
C. O. B.
A. 46.

No. XCII. Whereas their majesties, by their royal proclamation, dated at their camp, by Dublin, the tenth of July, 1690, in the second year of their majesties reign, for reasons therein mentioep, did think fit to reduce certain coyns of brass, copper and mixt metal, which formerly were used in this kingdom, and imposed upon the people at vast rates, beyond and above the intrinsick value, to the several rates in the said proclamation mentioned, and did ordain that the said coyns and pieces should be deemed and taken as current moneys in all payments at the several rates therein contained. Now forasmuch as it is found by experience, that the Irish who are in rebellion against their majesties, and have in their possession the whole or the far greater part of the said coin, do begin by secret and cunning ways to bring in the said coin into those parts of this kingdom under their majesties obedience, wherewith they or their agents not only furnish their majesties enemies with divers goods, provisions and commodities, for supplying their wants and necessities, which they could not any other ways obtain but by this means, will bring such vast quantities of the said coin amongst their majesties good subjects, as in the end will turn to their majesties great damage. We therefore taking the premisses into our consideration, for providing a remedy against this growing evill, have thought fit hereby to order, publish and declare, that from and after the six and twentieth day of this instant February, none of the said pieces or coyns in the said proclamation mentioned, shall be current, or used in any payments between any persons whatsoever;

X

nor shall any of their majesties loving subjects be compelled to take or receive the same as money at any rate or price whatsoever. Given at the Council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-third of February, 1690, and in the third year of their majesties reign.

Ibidem.
p. 146. A
45. p. 6.
& A. 46.

By the King and Queen's most excellent majesties.

William R.

No. XCIII. Having taken into our consideration the great oppressions and abuses committed by our enemies in this our kingdom of Ireland, by coining and making currant brass money of copper or mixt metal, and raising the value thereof to an extravagant height, thereby to enable them to continue the war against us, and to impoverish our loving subjects in our said kingdom: We have therefore thought it necessary to put stop thereto, and to the end that such part of the said copper or mixt metal money, which remains in the hands of our said subjects, may not be wholly lost, we have thought fit to reduce the former value of the said copper money, to the value or standard of the like copper money formerly currant in this our kingdom, and accordingly we do hereby will and require all our subjects, within our said kingdom of Ireland, to take and receive all such copper or mixt metal money, lately coined in the mint erected in our city of Dublin, at the several and respective valuations following, and that the same do pass currant in exchange of money, and for all manner of goods and provisions whatsoever, and shall be received by all the officers and collectors of our customs, excise, or other branches of our revenue accordingly, viz.

The large Half-crown of copper money, together with the Crown pieces, of like metal and weight, lately stamp'd, shall pass at one penny sterling.

The small Half-crown of copper, lately stamp'd, shall pass at three farthings.

The large copper shilling shall pass at a half-penny sterling

The small Shilling, lately stamped, and Six-pence, shall pass each at one farthing.

And our will and pleasure is, that all such pewter Pence, as have been lately coined in the said mint, shall pass for half-pence, and all the Half-pence of the like metal, stamped in the said mint, shall pass currant for farthings.

Which several sorts of coin shall be deemed as currant money, at the rates beforementioned, in all payments whatsoever within this our kingdom. Given at our camp by Dublin, this tenth day of July, 1690, in the second year of our reign.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

A. D.
1692.
Dr. P. col-
lection, v.
iii. p. 103

Sydney.

No. XCIV. Whereas By several proclamations heretofore published in the reigns of the late kings, Charles and James the second, before his abdication, and of their present majesties, certain tym and copper half-pence and farthings have been declared currant to pass in dealings between his majesties subjects according to

the terror of such proclamations, and whereas we the said Lord Lieutenant have pursuant to a power reserved unto us, in and by certain letters patents under the great seal of this kingdom made in the reign of the late king Charles the second, ordered and directed the persons interested in the said letters patents to cause the effigies of their majesties heads stamped in copper, on the one side, and on the other side the stamp or impress of an harpe crowned with this inscription*, *Carolus secundus Dei gratia Mag. Brit. Franc. & Hib. Rex. Gulielmus & Maria Dei gratia Mag. Brit. Franc. & Hib. Rex & Regina*, round before and on the reverse side of all the copper half-pence and farthings which they shall hereafter make or issue, pursuant to the power to them derived under the said letters patents. And whereas certain persons either ill-affected to their majesties government, or misled by false news and rumours, do refuse to receive the tynn and copper half-pence and farthings, as well those formerly authorized, as those lately made as aforesaid, to the great hindrance of trade and commerce, and hazard of the lives of multitudes of poor persons, who have no other money either for change or to buy necessities for their families: For prevention whereof, and to undeceive all their majesties subjects who have been imposed upon by designing men to believe without any ground that the said several half-pence and farthings of tynn and copper, as well those formerly as lately authorized, or any of them, ought not to pass current in payment in this kingdom as formerly they have and ought to do: we have thought fit to publish and declare, that neither the said copper or tynn half-pence or farthings have been or are by publick authority decay'd or disallow'd, but that they and every of them ought to pass current in payment in such manner as formerly and of late, by vertue of the said letters patents and proclamation, they did and ought to pass in this kingdom. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the seventeenth day of February, 1692.

By the Lord Deputy and Council.

Capel,

No. XGV. Whereas the coynes current in this kingdom, both of gold and silver, have of late, by reason of the great rise of the value thereof in other parts, been carried away in so very great quantities, that it is manifest, unless some speedy remedy be provided, this kingdom will be soon so dreynd of them that there will not remain sufficient to carry on the necessary commerce at home, much less to manage any trade abroad, which cannot not only lessen his majesties revenue, but impoverish this kingdom: And whereas the raising the value of the foreign coyne of the gold and silver current in this kingdom will be the most effectual means to prevent the aforesaid mischiefs; and the same having been represented to his most excellent majesty, who hath been graciously pleased by his royal letters to authorize and empower us the Lord Deputy, to take the premises into our serious consideration and with the advice of the council here to do therein as we shall find most expedient for the good

* I presume the words (instead of) were here omitted through mistake in the printed original where they are wanted.

A. D.
1695.
C. O. B.
A. 44.
p. 255.
A. 45.
p. 117.
A. 46.

of his majesties people of this kingdom. We having maturely considered thereof, do publish and declare by this our proclamation, that the several sorts of foreign coynes hereafter mentioned now currant in this kingdom, shall from henceforth pass and be accepted in all payments and receipts as well to and from his majesty as otherwise howsoever, as currant money within this kingdom, at and after the respective rates hereafter mentioned, as fully and freely as if the same were sterling money of and in England, *viz.* See page 65.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver shall want of the respective weights herein mentioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three half pence for each half-penny weight so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively and so proportionably, &c. And it is hereby declared, that the weights now in use in this kingdom, by vertue of a proclamation issued in the time of the government of Richard Earl of Arran, lord deputy of Ireland, bearing date the sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1683, and no other shall continue to be used for the weighing of all the several sorts of coynes abovementioned as formerly. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-ninth of May, 1695.

A. D.

1697.

C. O. B.

Winchester.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Galloway.

A. 44.

p. 293.

Dr. P. col.

lection, v.

ii. p. 207.

C. O. B.

A. 45.

p. 133.

A. 46.

A. 47.

No. XCVI. Whereas great quantities of copper pieces, coined in the likeness of the half-pence, currant by proclamation, have of late been imported into the northern and other parts of this kingdom out of Scotland, and from other parts beyond the seas; and whereas information is given us, that very great quantities of such pieces, far exceeding the whole quantity of half-pence coined in this kingdom, lye now ready in several parts of Scotland to be imported hither; so as it is justly suspected that the same have been coined, and counterfeited beyond the seas, and are sent to drain the silver now currant, and remaining here, in exchange for such counterfeit and base money, which hath also in a great measure already happened in the northern parts of this kingdom, where little other coin, save such copper money, as is now currant, or to be seen. For prevention therefore of the said mischiefs, we have thought fit, by this our proclamation, to prohibit the importation of any such counterfeit, or false money; and to declare, that all persons that shall any way be concerned in or assisting to the importation of the same shall be proceeded against, according to the utmost strictness and severity of the law. And to the end that deceitful importers of such counterfeit money may be proceeded against, and punished according to law, we do hereby will and require all his majesty's justices of the peace, mayors, and other magistrates of corporations, and also all customers, collectors, surveyors, and other officers of his majesty's revenue from time to time, to seize and secure all quantities of half-pence, or pieces made to the likeness of half-pence, that shall hereafter be imported into this kingdom, and the same into his majesty's custom-house or some other place, to put and keep, and to give

immediate account thereof, by letter to the clerk of the council, to the end it may be put in a way of examination, whether the same be counterfeit or not: and the same having seized, to detain till further order, and also to commit to prison the person or persons importing such base money, unless they shall find good and sufficient security to appear at the next assizes, to be held for the county where such importation shall be, and there to answer what shall be objected against them on his majesty's behalf, for importing counterfeit pieces to the likeness of the currant half-pence of this kingdom, with intent to utter the same in deceit of his majesty and his liege people. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the thirteenth day of August, 1697.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Winchester. Galloway.

No. XCVII Whereas great quantities of false counterfeit money, made to the likeness of the good and legal gold and silver coyn, currant in this kingdom, have been imported into, or made, and counterfeited in the same; and such counterfeit coin, is ordinarily passed in payment to poor and unskilful persons, to the great prejudice of this realm: For the better prevention, and remedy of the same, for the future, we have thought fit to issue this our proclamation, requiring and commanding all judges, justices of peace, and other officers of justice, duly and strictly to put the laws of force in this kingdom against coiners, and utterers of false money, in execution. And whereas much of the false money is uttered by several persons, who buy up the same as false and counterfeit at lower rates than the intrinsic value of the metal, whereof such counterfeit coin is made, yet afterwards pass and pay away the same as good and lawfull money; and when the same is discovered to be false and counterfeit, the said persons do usually shelter themselves under a pretence of being ignorant that the same was counterfeit: To the end such persons may hereafter be without excuse, and as much of the said counterfeit money, as is possible, may be utterly defaced, so as never to be again past in payment, We do hereby strictly require and command, that no person, or persons, do hereafter buy or sell any false or counterfeit money in this kingdom, untill the same shall be cut in the middle, or so defaced and broken that the same may not pass again as coin, or be paid away to any person whatsoever, but may remain in the hands of the buyer as so much metal only, and not bear the shape, likeness, or figure of any money legally currant in this realm, under pain of being prosecuted and punished as contemners of this our proclamation, and enemies to the publick welfare of the kingdom, according to the strictness, and utmost severity of the law. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the tenth day of December, 1697.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Winchester. Galloway.

No. XCVIII. Whereas many and great inconveniencies have happen'd to his majesty's subjects of this kingdom, by the difference of weights that have been of late made use of, for the weighing of such foreign coin as is currant here, and

A. D.
1697.

wanted in
the coun.
office.

Dr.P.col-
lection,v.
ii. p. 219

C. O. B.

A. 46.

A. 47.

A. D.

1697.

C. O. B.

A. 45.

p. 146.

A. 46, 47.

Dr.P.col-
lection,v.
ii. p. 227.

that several weights for the weighing such coin as aforesaid, have been unskillfully made, sold, and uttered by John Cuthbert of the city of Dublin (who was formerly appointed one of the persons to make the same) to the great prejudice of his majesty's good subjects; and we being desirous to remedy a mischief so prejudicial to the trade and traffick of this kingdom, have thought fit by this our proclamation: and we do hereby declare, that we have removed and discharged the said John Cuthbert and Henry Paris from making, adjusting or selling any money-weights, and have directed all the money weights that are necessary for the said coin, to be exactly made by Vincent Kidder of Dublin goldsmith, according to the standard lately made in his majesty's mint in the tower in London, and sent to us by the right honourable the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury in England, each weight to be stamped with the number of the penny weights it bears, on one side, and the king's arms on the other side, where the same are to be had at reasonable rates, not exceeding fifteen pence for all the weights, being eight in number, viz. for the ducatoon, half-duccatoon, for the whole plate and Peru pieces, and half, and quarter pieces thereof, a two penny weight, a penny weight, an half penny weight, which are all that will be necessary for weighing the several sorts of the said coin, that do now commonly pass in this kingdom. And for preventing any deceit hereafter, we have ordered one of the said standards for all sorts of the said weights, to be lodged with the clerk of the council, another with the chief baron of his majesty's Court of Exchequer, and a third with the receiver general of his majesty's revenue in this kingdom, by whom the same are to be left in succession with the next succeeding clerk of the council, chief baron, and receiver general, to the end that all differences that shall happen about any weight for money, may thereby be either determined or prevented. And in case any person, or persons, shall either pay or receive any money by any other weights, than such as shall be agreeable to the said standard, they are to be proceeded against and punished according to law as keepers and users of false and unlawful weights. And we do hereby strictly charge and command, that no person (except the said Vincent Kidder) do presume to make, adjust, or sell any of the money weights to be used in this kingdom for the future, upon pain of being proceeded against with the utmost severity. And we do hereby declare, that all the aforesaid coin being standing weight are to pass, and that any such coin not weighing down the scale in the weighing thereof, is not to be any cause for refusal thereof, as also, that any person receiving any money shall receive by what side of the scale he pleases, if he uses those of the payer, and if he uses his own, then he is to receive by which side the payer shall think fit to direct, and we do hereby require all his majesty's collectors and receivers of any of his revenue in this kingdom, and all other his majesty's subjects to observe and obey the same. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-first day of February, 1697.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Winchester. Galloway.

No. XCIX. Whereas we have received information that several coiners of counterfeit money, are lately fled from England and other parts, and are come into this kingdom, where they have again set up and exercise the same wicked course and practice, and have of late made and counterfeited great quantities of the several coins current in this realm, and such counterfeit money have been uttered and delivered in payment by divers persons who were privy to the coining thereof, and well knew the same to be false and counterfeit; which offence in counterfeiting such current coin is by the laws and statutes of this realm high-treason, and the uttering and delivering the same in payment misprision of treason: We the Lords Justices and Council being willing to prevent the mischief which may arise to this realm from the spreading and increase of such false and counterfeit money, and to the intent that all such offenders may be brought to condign punishment, have thought fit by this our proclamation strictly to charge and require; and we do hereby charge and require all justices of the peace, sheriffs, and all other officers, within the several counties of this realm, and all mayors, bayliffs, and other officers within the several cities and towns corporate thereof, that they and every of them within their respective limits do use their utmost endeavours to discover and apprehend, or cause to be apprehended all such offenders, and that they commit such of them as shall be so apprehended to the respective goals of the respective county, city, or place, where they shall be so taken, and where they may be safely kept, that they may be proceeded against for such their offences, with the utmost severity of law. And to the intent that particular care may be taken, in the prosecution of such offenders: We do hereby further charge and require the said justices of the peace, sheriffs, mayors, bayliffs, and other officers, aforesaid, and every of them, that when any such offender shall be apprehended, they send notice thereof to the secretary of us the Lords Justices of this realm, as soon after the same, as it can conveniently be done; together with an account of the examinations, or other evidence against such person. And for the encouragement of all such as shall discover any such coiner or counterfeiter of money, which shall thereupon be taken and convict of such offence; we do hereby promise unto every such discoverer, the sum of ten pounds, for each person so discovered and convict, which we will order to be paid unto him, on his producing a certificate of such discovery and conviction, from the judge or judges, before whom such offender was tried and convict. And do further promise, that if such discovery shall be made by any person, who hath been guilty of the said offence, or been aiding or assisting therein, or in uttering any such counterfeit money, such person making such discovery, shall not only receive the aforesaid reward of ten pounds for such his discovery, but shall also be pardoned for all offences of coining, or uttering such false money, or of being aiding or assisting therein, by him or her committed before such discovery made. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-third day of May, 1698.

A. D.

1698.

C. O. B.

A. 45.

p. 152.

A. 44.

p. 320.

Dr. P. collection, v.

ii. p. 234.

C. O. B.

A. 46.

A. 47.

A. D. 1701.
C. O. B. Narcissus Dublin. Drogheda. Mount-Alexander.
A. 48. No. C. Whereas his majesty hath been graciously pleased by his royal letters to
p. 13. us the Lords Justices, bearing date at Hampton-court, the nineteenth day of May,
Dr.P.col. one thousand seven hundred and one, to signify his royal will and pleasure, that we
lection, v. should forthwith cause a proclamation to be issued, for the reducing the several
ii. p. 256. species of foreign coin herein aftermentioned, to the rates herein after set forth,
so as the same may pass at those rates accordingly. We the Lords Justices and
Council in obedience to his majesty's said command do publish and declare by
this our proclamation, that the several sorts of foreign coins hereafter mentioned,
now current in this kingdom, shall from and after Friday the sixth day of this pre-
sent month of June, pass and be accepted in all payments and receipts, as well to
and from his majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom,
at and under the respective rates hereafter mentioned and none other, that is to say;
See page 67.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver, shall want of the re-
spective weights herein beforementioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence
for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively,
and three half pence for each half penny weight so wanting in any piece of the
kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, and so proportionably for every greater want
of weight in the said pieces, &c. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, this
second day of June, 1701.

A. D. 1708.
C. O. B. Narcissus Armach. R. Freeman, C.
A. 48. No. CI. For the more effectual inforcing the several proclamations formerly is-
p. 134. sued in this kingdom, to regulate the weight and currency of foreign coyns now
Dr.P.col. current therein, and to prevent the abuses practised in receipts and payments thereof;
lection, v. we the Lords Justices and Council, have thought fit by this our proclamation, to
ii. p. 421. publish and declare, that the several sorts of foreign coyns now current in this king-
dom, shall (notwithstanding they shall want of the respective weights at which the
same are current by proclamations now in force) be allowed, and pass in all payments
as well to and from her majesty, as otherwise howsoever, the person paying the same,
making an allowance of two pence for each grain wanting in any piece of foreign
gold, and of three half pence for each half penny weight wanting in any piece of
foreign silver coyn current in this kingdom. And in case such defect of weight
shall be supplied in manner as aforesaid; then, and in such case, every piece so de-
fective of weight, and that defect of weight so supplied, or allowed for as is afore-
said, is to be from henceforth allowed and to pass in all payments as well to as from
her majesty as otherwise howsoever, as currant money as aforesaid. And to prevent
deceits and abuses too frequently practiced in the weighing of such coyns, we do
farther publish and declare, that all foreign coyns of gold or silver now current by
vertue of any proclamation of force in this kingdom, being standing weight, are to

pass, and are to be received and paid at the rates in such proclamations mentioned and ascertained; and that any such coyns not weighing down the scales, or not breaking or turning the beam in weighing thereof, is not to be any cause for the refusal thereof; but the same is to be received in payment at the same rates as if the same broke down the scale in weighing the same. And if any persons shall hereafter act contrary to this our proclamation, they shall be prosecuted against as contemnners of her majesty's prerogative and authority, with the utmost rigour that is by law to be inflicted on such offenders. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the nineteenth day of August, 1708.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Con. Phipps, Canc. Jo. Tuam.

No. CII. Whereas upon the humble representation of the Lords Justices and Council of this kingdom to her majesty, that the original proclamation under the great seal, which gave currency to several foreign coyns in this kingdom, was destroyed by the late fire; so that the clerk of the council cannot make out such a certificate thereof as is required by a late act of parliament for the better conviction of persons who shall counterfeit the same, and that there are several foreign coins here which have not been made currant, nor the values thereof ascertained by any former proclamation. Her most excellent majesty out of her royal care of this her kingdom; and that all her majesty's subjects may know the value of such foreign coins, and for preventing the counterfeiting thereof, hath been graciously pleased by her order in council, in Great-Britain, bearing date at her court at Kensington, the seventeenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and twelve, to order, that the several species of foreign gold and silver of the weight and values hereafter mentioned, should pass in payment within this kingdom, at the several rates herein respectively specified; and that a proclamation should be issued to that effect. We the Lords Justices and Council, in obedience to her majesty's said order, do publish and declare by this our proclamation, that the several sorts and species of foreign gold and silver coyns herein aftermentioned, shall from and after the twelfth day of August next, pass and be accepted in all receipts and payments as well to and from her majesty as otherwise howsoever, as currant money within this kingdom, at the several rates herein respectively specified, and none other, that is to say, S. page 68.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver shall want of the respective weights herein mentioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three half pence for each half penny weight so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, and so proportionably for every greater want of weight in the said pieces, &c. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the thirtieth day of July, 1712.

A. D.
1714.
C. O. B.
A. 49.
p. 63.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Tho. Armagh. Con. Phipps, Canc.

No. CIII. Whereas her majesty has been graciously pleased by her order to signify her royal pleasure, that we should forthwith cause a proclamation to be issued for making the new species of French coin herein after mentioned current in this kingdom, at the several rates herein set forth, so as the same may pass in payments at those rates. We the Lords Justices and Council, in obedience to her majesty's said commands, do publish and declare, by this our proclamation, that the several new species of French coins herein after mentioned be from henceforth current in this kingdom, and that the same shall for the future pass and be accepted in all payments and receipts as well to and from her majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom, at and under the respective rates hereafter mentioned, and none other, that is to say, See page 69.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold or silver shall want of the respective weights herein before mentioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, and three half pence for each half penny weight so wanting in any piece of the kinds of silver aforesaid respectively, &c. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the twenty-fourth day of July, 1714.

A. D.
1718.
C. O. B.
A. 50.
p. 122.
A. 51.
p. 70.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Will. Dublin. Wm. Conolly.

No. CIV. Whereas by proclamation bearing date the thirtieth day of July one thousand seven hundred and twelve, the then lords justices and Council of this kingdom, in obedience to her late majesty's orders, did publish and declare, that several sorts and species of foreign gold coins herein after mentioned, should from and after the twelfth day of August next (after the date of the said proclamation) pass and be accepted in all receipts and payments, as well to and from her majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom, at the several rates herein respectively specified and none other, that is to say, See page 68. And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold should want of the respective weights herein before mentioned, then allowance to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, &c. And whereas by one other proclamation bearing date the twenty fourth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, the then lords justices and council of this kingdom did in obedience to her late majesty's commands, publish and declare, that the several new species of French coyns herein aftermentioned should be from thenceforth current in this kingdom, and that the same should for the future pass and be accepted in all payments and receipts as well to and from her majesty as otherwise howsoever as current money within this kingdom, at and under the respective rates herein after mentioned, and none other, that is to say; See page 69. And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold should want of the respective weights herein before mentioned,

then allowance to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, &c. Given at the council-chamber in Dublin, the fifth day of May, 1718.

To the King's most excellent Majesty.

The humble address of the Lords spiritual and temporal of Ireland, in parliament assembled.

May it please your most sacred Majesty,

No. CV. We the Lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled, are under the utmost concern to find that our duty to your Majesty and our country, indispensably calls upon us to acquaint your Majesty with the ill consequences, which will follow from a patent for coining Half-pence and Farthings to be utter'd in this kingdom, obtained under the great seal of Great Britain, by one William Wood, in a clandestine and unprecedented manner, and by a gross misrepresentation of the state of this kingdom.—We are most humbly of opinion, that the diminution of your Majesty's revenue, the ruin of our trade, and the impoverishing of your people, must unavoidably attend this undertaking; and we beg leave to observe to your Majesty, that from the most exact enquiries and computations we have been able to make, it appears to us, that the gain to William Wood will be excessive, and the loss to this kingdom, by circulating this base coin, greater than this poor country is able to bear.—With the greatest submission and deference to your Majesty's wisdom, we beg we may offer it as our humble opinion, that the reserving the coining of Half-pence and Farthings to the crown, and the not trusting it with any private person, body politick or corporate, will always be for your Majesty's service, and the good of your people in this kingdom.

In confidence, Sir, of your paternal care of the welfare of this country, we beseech your Majesty, that you will be pleased to extend that goodness and compassion to us, which has so eminently shew'd itself to all your other subjects, who have the happiness to live under your protection and government; and that you will give such directions as may effectually free us from the terrible apprehensions we labour under from the patent granted to William Wood.

By the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

Carteret.

No. CVI. Whereas his majesty has been graciously pleased to signify his royal pleasure, that we should forthwith cause a proclamation to be issued for making the new gold coyn of Portugal herein after mentioned current in this kingdom at the several rates herein set forth, so as the same may pass in payments at those rates: We the Lord Lieutenant and Council in obedience to his majesties said commands, do publish and declare by this our proclamation, that the several new pieces of gold coin of Portugal herein after mentioned, be from henceforth current in this kingdom, and that the same shall for the future pass and be accepted in all payments and receipts, as well to and from his majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this

A. D.
1725.

C. O. B.
A. 51.

p. 179.

kingdom, at and under the respective rates hereafter mentioned, and none other, that is to say; See page 71.

And in case any of the aforesaid pieces of gold coin shall want of the respective weights herein before mentioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain so wanting in any piece of the kinds of gold aforesaid respectively, 8c. Given at the council-chamber, in Dublin, the twenty-second day of January, 1725.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

A. D.
1737.
C. O. B.
A. 52.
p. 122.

Hu. Armach. Wyndham, C. Hen. Boyle.

No. CVII. Whereas the Lords Justices and Privy-council of this kingdom, in order to remedy the inconveniencies and difficulties which affect the trade, and particularly, the linen manufactures of this kingdom, and his majesty's revenues here, occasioned by the want of good copper money; applied to his grace Lionel Duke of Dorset, late lord lieutenant general, and general governor of this kingdom, to lay the same before his majesty, and obtain his royal licence for coynning fifty tuns of copper at his majesty's mint of London, under the regulations herein after mentioned. And whereas his majesty, to answer the said proposals made by the Lords Justices and Privy-council of this kingdom, with the concurrence of the said lord lieutenant general, and general governor of Ireland, and for remedying the said inconveniencies, has been most graciously pleased to direct, that a proper agent should be appointed to contract for fifty tuns of copper, to be delivered to the master of his majesty's mint in his tower of London to be coined for the service of this kingdom; and also to authorize and command the master of his mint in his said tower of London, to receive from such person or persons, as his majesty's lieutenant general, and general governor, or lords justices of this kingdom, or any authorized by them or either of them, shall contract with for that purpose, fine copper, which when heated red-hot, will spread thin under the hammer without cracking, and out of the same to coin fifty tuns, or such greater quantity, as shall be necessary for this kingdom, one sixth in farthings, and five sixths in Half-pence, of such size, that fifty and two half pence, or hundred and four farthings, may make a pound weight avoirdupois, excepting only such errors by accident, not by design, as may happen by the unequal size of the bars, not exceeding the thirtieth part of a pound weight; and that his majesty's effigies, with the inscription, GEORGIUS II. REX. be stamped on one side of each piece, and the Irish harp crowned on the other side, and over it the inscription, HIBERNIA. and under it the date of the year, with directions that the moniers of his majesty's said mint should not distribute any of the said money, before the same be duely assayed. And whereas his majesty has been also graciously pleased to direct, that the costs of the said fifty tuns of copper, and all charges attending the coining, and the transmitting the said half-pence and farthings, when coined, into this kingdom, should be paid by his majesty's vice-treasurer, receiver general and pay-master of this kingdom, his or their deputy for the time being; and that whatever profit shall arise from the said copper coinage,

(after all necessary expences about it defrayed) shall go into the publick revenue at large of this kingdom, to be employed as any part of the publick revenue unappropriated, is employed. And whereas there have been former copper coinages for this kingdom, under the patents of his majesty's royal predecessors, which copper money, is now currant in this kingdom; his majesty has been also graciously pleased, in order to continue the currency of such copper money coined under those patents, together with such copper money as shall be coined for the service of this kingdom, in his majesty's tower of London, to signify his will and pleasure, that his lord lieutenant, deputy, or other chief governor or governors, for the time being, should give the necessary directions to the commissioners of his majesty's revenues in this kingdom, to order the several collectors to receive such copper money as has been coined under the said patents, or shall be coined for the service of this kingdom, in his majesty's tower of London indifferently, and without any preference of the one sort to the other, in discharge of what shall become due to his majesty: provided that no more be received in any one payment made to them, than twelve of those half-pence, or six-pence; and that if by those payments, the said collector or any of them, shall have a redundancy of those half-pence, that the said collectors shall, and may pay to the respective officers of his majesty's army in this kingdom, or to such person as shall tender an Exchequer acquittance to the said collectors, for payment of his majesty's said army, any sum of the said half-pence, not exceeding five pounds in every hundred pounds, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser sum, and the like quantity to the officers of his majesty's revenue, who shall receive their salaries, from the said respective collectors. And his majesty has been further pleased to signify his pleasure, that his said vice-treasurer, and receiver-general, and paymaster-general, or his or their deputy, do issue out of his majesty's treasury in this kingdom, such new coined copper, or old copper money, as they shall receive, to such as are willing to take the same. And whereas their Excellencies the Lords Justices of this kingdom have, in obedience to his majesty's commands, given the necessary directions to the commissioners of his majesty's revenue here, for receiving and paying the said copper money; and to the deputy vice-treasurer of this kingdom for issuing the same: We therefore the Lords Justices and Council, do, by this our proclamation, publish and declare his majesty's most gracious intentions for the service of this kingdom. And to prevent further imposition upon the traders and poor manufacturers of this kingdom, by the uttering of false and base brass money, commonly called Raps, we do hereby declare, that if any person or persons shall presume to make, vend, or utter any half-pence, or farthings, or other pieces of brass, copper, or other base metal, other than the copper money coined under the patents of his majesty's royal predecessors, and now current in this kingdom, and such copper money as is or shall be coined in his majesty's tower of London, for the service of this kingdom, or shall offer to counterfeit any of the said half-pence or farthings, such person or persons shall be prosecuted, for such their offences, with the utmost severity of the law, to deter others

from committing the like crimes. Given at the council-chamber, in Dublin, the sixth day of May, 1737.

A. D.
1737.
C. O. B.

By the Lords Justices and Council.

Hu. Armach. Wyndham, C. Hen. Boyle.

No. CVIII. Whereas his majesty has been pleased to signify his royal pleasure, that a proclamation should issue for regulating the gold coins current in this kingdom, and for that purpose his majesty's order in council, bearing date at his court at Hampton-court the twenty-first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven, has been transmitted to us, setting forth, that whereas the Lord Lieutenant and Council of this kingdom, have represented to his Majesty, that there is at present a great scarcity of silver coin in this kingdom, occasioned by persons being tempted to carry it out of this kingdom to make an advantage thereof; and that the greatest part of the gold coin current here, is in the two larger pieces of Portugal gold, one of which passing for four pounds, and the other for forty shillings, great inconveniencies and difficulties daily arise in obtaining change for the same; and that there being a disproportion between the value of the said large pieces and the lesser pieces of foreign gold coin, to the advantage of the larger, the same has occasioned likewise a scarcity of the lesser pieces of gold coin, by means whereof great distress has been brought upon the trade, and particularly the linen manufacture of this kingdom; and also upon his majesty's forces here: and therefore humbly prayed, that the gold coin, both English and foreign, current here, might be rated at the quantity of English silver they usually pass for in England, with an allowance of some small advantage to the lesser pieces. And whereas the Lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury (to whom his Majesty thought proper to refer the consideration of the said representation) have reported to his Majesty in council, that they had taken the opinion of the late master-worker, and the rest of the principal officers of his Majesty's mint thereupon, who proposed that a reduction should be made in the value of the gold coins current in this kingdom, at least as low as they are in Great-Britain; and the disproportion between the larger and the lesser pieces should be rectified; which said proposal, being agreed to by the said Lords commissioners of the treasury, and approved of by his Majesty in council, his Majesty has been graciously pleased, by his said order in council to order, that the following pieces of gold current in this kingdom, do pass in payment within this kingdom at the rates herein after respectively specified, and that a proclamation should be issued to that effect. We therefore the Lords Justices and Council, in obedience to his majesty's said order, do by this our proclamation publish and declare, that the several pieces of gold coin herein after mentioned, shall from and after the tenth day of September next pass and be accepted in all receipts and payments, as well to and from his Majesty as otherwise howsoever, as current money within this kingdom, at the several rates herein after respectively specified, and none other, that is to say; See page 74.

And if any of the aforesaid pieces of foreign gold shall want of the respective weights herein before mentioned, then allowance is to be given of two pence for each grain, one penny for half a grain, and one half-penny for one quarter of a grain, so wanting in any piece of the said foreign gold coins, and so proportionably for every greater want of weight in the said pieces; and in case such defect of weight as aforesaid, shall be supplied in manner aforesaid, then and in such case every piece so defective in the weight as aforesaid, and that defect of weight so supplied as aforesaid, is to be henceforth allowed, and to pass as current money as aforesaid, &c. Given at the council-chamber, in Dublin, the tenth of September, 1737.

The following ordinance came too late to be printed in its place.

Ordinatio magni consilii de recipiendo aurum ad standardum ponderis.

No. CIX. Cum Dominus Rex consilium suum magnum coram venerabili Patre A. D. 1423.
 Edwardo episcopo Midensi, deputato Edwardi comitis Marchiæ & Ultoniæ, locum TurBirm.
 tenentis Domini Regis terræ suæ Hiberniæ in crastino animarum, anno regni sui se- an. 2 Hen.
 cundo teneri ordinavit, cui vero venerabili Patri, nec non dominis spiritualibus & VI. No. 27. dorso.
 temporalibus communes terræ prædictæ ad idem consilium per breviam regia ad concordandum & consentiendum electi coram præfato venerabili Patre comparantes eisdem supplicarunt, ut cum rumor maximus per totam terram de falso auro contrafacto tonso & loto habeatur, quâ occasione omnes & singuli mercatores cum eorum mercandiziis ad terram prædictam venire se retrahent. Et etiam quam plurimæ variationes & discordiæ inter ligeos Domini Regis terræ prædictæ in diversis pacationibus in dies incipiunt oriri & pejus oriuntur, nisi remedium hujusmodi dampnis & præjudiciis citius apponatur. Super quo auctoritate consilii prædicti pro majore tranquillitate & quiete gentium & reipublicæ terræ prædictæ, & ad evitanda dampna & incommoda quæ terræ prædictæ ratione auri tonso, loti, contrafacti in eadem terrâ absque pondere usitato possint de facili evenire, de assensu dicti deputati, ac dominorum spiritualium & temporalium ad specialem rogatum communium in eodem consilio existentium, ordinatum est & concordatum, quod nobilis, obolus & quadrans auri (auro contrafacto excepto) secundum hujusmodi auri pondus & valorem per ligeos Domini Regis, ac alias gentes ad eandem terram confluentes, capiantur & recipiantur per pondus universaliter & persolvantur: & quod unum standardum ponderis dicti auri standardo in Regno Angliæ usitatum concordans sit; & in thesaurariâ Domini Regis in custodiâ thesaurarii & camerariorum scaecarii Hiberniæ, qui aut sunt, vel per tempus erunt de cætero remaneat; & quod quilibet vicecomes, major, ballivus, seneschallus, superior & præpositus per totam terram prædictam ad eorum prosecutionem habeant pondera dicto standardo recte concordantia. Et insuper quod quilibet ligeus Domini Regis terræ prædictæ habeat cursum ad ea standarda in quolibet loco; ubi assistunt, ad pondera dicti standardi, quoties sibi placuerint, facienda.

Et etiam quod Ngei Domini Regis ejusdem terræ, ac Indigenæ & Alienigenæ ad eandem terram confluentes, hujusmodi aurum, licet tonsum, seu lotum fuerit, per pondus, secundum valorem & pondus ejusdem, absque contradictione percipiant in futurum. Et quod nullus hujusmodi aurum contrà ordinationem prædictam refutet, aut recipere recuset. Sub pœnâ quadraginta solidorum de benis & catallis suis ad opus Domini Regis solvendorum; & quod corpus ejusdem de præmissis delinquentis gaolæ Domini Regis committatur, in eâdem moraturum, quousque Domino Regi redemptionem & finem inde faciat.

TABLE I.

GOLD MONIES UNWORN.	Assay. car. grs.	Weight dwt. grs.	Val. Engl. s. d. pts.	Val. Irish. s. d. pts.
The old Lewis-d'or.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 8	16 9 32	18 2 1
The Half (and Quarter in proportion) ...	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	8 4 66	9 1 5
The new Lewis-d'or.....	w 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 11 98	21 7 97
The Half and (Quarter in proportion) ...	w 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 11 99	10 9 99
The old Spanish Pistole.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 8	16 9 32	18 2 1
The old Spanish double Pistole.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 16	33 6 64	36 4 2
The old Spanish quadruple Pistole.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 8	67 1 28	72 8 4
The Doppio Moieda of Portugal.....	B 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 22	27 0 9	29 3 11
The Moieda of Portugal.....	B 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 11	13 6 5	14 7 55
The half Moieda of Portugal.....	B 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 9 2	7 3 78
The Hungary Ducat.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 6	10 0 91
The Ducat coined <i>ad legem Imperii</i>	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The Ducat of Camper in Holland.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The Ducat of the bishop of Bamberg...	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The double Ducat of the duke of Hanover	B 1 2	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 5 28	19 11 71
The Ducat of the duke of Hanover.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 2 64	9 11 85
The Ducat of Brandenburg.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The Ducat of Sweden.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The Ducat of Denmark.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 26	10 0 53
The Ducat of Poland.....	B 1 2	2 5	9 2 11	9 11 40
The Ducat of Transilvania.....	B 1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 1 11	9 10 20
The Sequin or Zacheen of Venice.....	B 1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 5 55	10 3 4
The old Italian Pistole.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 7 46	18 0 9
Double Ducats of Genoa.....	B 1 2	4 11	18 6 51	20 1 6
Single Ducats of Genoa, Besanson, and } Zurick.....	B 1 2	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 25	10 0 53
Pistole of Rome, Milan, Venice, Flo- } rence, Savoy, Genoa, Orange, Tre- } voux, Besanson.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 6	16 6 0	17 10 51
The Barbary Ducat, with Arabick let- } ters on both sides, without effigies or } escutcheon.....	w 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 16 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 3 58	10 0 88
The new Portugal piece current in Ire- } land for 88s. 10d.....	w 0 0 $\frac{1}{8}$	9 4	35 7 7	38 6 58
The other parts in proportion,				

As the Portuguese are not very exact as to the weight of their coins, the trial of this last piece was taken on an average. Its weight by proclamation is settled here at nine penny-weight five grains one fourth.

N. B. { B stands for better }
 { w for worse } than sterling.

Decimals.

N. B. 24 Carats, is a pound of gold.	1 Carat-grain 0,25
4 Grains, a carat	2 0,5
1 Carat, is $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce, or 10 penny-weight.	3 0,75
1 Carat-grain is $2\frac{1}{2}$ penny-weight, or 60 grains } troy	$\frac{1}{2}$ 0,125
"	$\frac{1}{4}$ 0,0625

TABLE II.

The Assays, Weights, and Value of several FOREIGN SILVER COINS, un worn.	Assay. dwt.	Weight dwt. gra.	Val. Engl. d. pts.	Val. Irish d. pts.
The Piaster of Spain, or Sevil piece of 8 } Reals, now reduced to ten }	w 1	17 13	54 0	58 50
The new Sevil piece of Eight }	w $1\frac{1}{2}$	14 0	43 11	46 70
The Mexico piece of Eight }	w 1	17 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 82	58 30
The Pillar piece of Eight }	sterl.	17 9	53 87	58 36
The old Ecu of France, or piece of 60 } Sols Tournois }	w 1	17 12	54 0	58 50
The Crusado of Portugal, or ducat, } worth 400 rees, now mark'd, and } raised to 480 rees }	w 2	11 4	34 31	37 17
The Ducaton of Flanders, or piece of } 60 patars }	B $4\frac{1}{2}$	20 22	66 15	71 66
The Patagon of Flanders, or cross- } dollar, or piece of 48 patars }	w 12	18 1	52 91	57 32
The Ducaton of Holland, or piece of 63 } stivers }	B 8	20 21	65 59	71 5
The Patagon Leg-dollar, or rix-dollar } of Holland, or piece of 50 stivers . . }	w 14	18 0	52 28	56 64
The 3 Guilder piece of Holland, or piece } of 60 stivers }	w 2	20 8	62 46	67 66
The 10 Schelling piece of Zeeland, or } piece of 60 stivers }	w 2	20 6	62 21	67 39
The Lyon-dollar of Holland, or two } thirds of the ducaton }	w 44	17 14	43 70	47 35

The Assays, &c.	Assay dwt.	Weight dwt. grs.	Val. Engl. d. pts.	Val. Irish. d. pts.
The Ducaton of Cologne	B 3	20 18	65 20	70 63
The Rix-dollar, or patagon of Cologne ..	w 13	18 0	53 53	56 91
The Rix-dollar, or patagon of Liege	w 12	17 22½	52 60	56 98
The Rix-dollar of Mentz	w 6½	18 8	55 17	59 77
The Rix-dollar of Frankfort	w 9	18 8	54 53	59 7
The Rix-dollar of Nuremberg	w 6	18 10	53 55	60 18
The old Rix-dollar of Lunenburg	w 10	18 11	54 65	59 20
The old Rix-dollar of Hanover	w 8	18 12	55 28	59 69
The double Gulden of the elector of Hanover	w 7	18 18	56 29	60 98
The Gulden of the elector of Hanover, } or piece of two thirds	B 17½	8 10	28 14	30 49
The Half-gulden of the elector of } Hanover, or piece of one third	B 17½	4 5	14 7	15 24
The Gulden of the duke of Zell, or piece } of 16 gutz-grosch	w 43	11 2	27 70	30 1
The Gulden of Hildesheim, or piece of } 24 manen-grosch, now raised to 26s. }	w 40½	11 22	30 21	32 72
The Rix-dollar of Magdeburgh	w 10	18 12	54 77	59 33
The Gulden or Guilder of Magdeburgh .	w 44	11 14	28 79	31 19
The old Rix-dollar of the elector of } Brandenburgh	w 9	18 13	55 15	59 74
The old Gulden of Brandenburgh, now } raised from 24 to 26 manen-grosch ... }	w 43	12 4	30 41	32 94
The Gulden of Brandenburgh, or piece } of two thirds	w 43	11 3	27 81	30 12
The Half-gulden of Brandenburgh, or } piece of one third	w 43	5 13	13 85	15 0
The Gulden of the elector of Saxony, or } piece of two thirds	w 41	11 3	28 12	30 46
The old Bank-dollar of Hamburgh	w 8	18 9	54 92	59 49
The old Rix-dollar of Lubeck	w 8½	18 16	55 65	60 29
The Four-mark piece of Denmark, of } coarser alloy	w 6½	14 8	32 23	34 91
The Four-mark piece ditto of finer alloy	w 21	11 13½	32 45	35 16
The Eight-mark piece of Sweden	sta.	20 0	62 0	67 16
The Four-mark piece of Sweden	w 58	13 12	30 92	33 49
The old Dollar of Dantzick	w 10½	18 9	54 27	58 79
The old Rix-dollar of Thorn	w 12	18 8½	53 18	58 31
The Rix-dollars of Sigismund III. and } Uladislaus IV. kings of Poland	w 10	18 9	54 40	58 93

The Assays, &c.	Assay dwt.	Weight dwt. grs.	Val. Engl. d. pts.	Val. Irish. d. pts.
The Rix-dollar of Leopold I. emperor ..	w 10½	18 9	54 27	58 79
The Rix-dollar of Ferdinand III.	w 10½	18 9	54 27	58 79
The Rix-dollar of Ferdinand archduke } of Austria	w 10½	18 5	53 78	58 25
The Rix-dollar of Bazil	w 7½	18 18½	56 22	60 91
The Rix-dollar of Zurich	w 13	18 1	52 65	57 4
The old Ducat of Venice, with the } words, <i>Ducatus Venetus</i> upon it	w 23½	14 15	40 54	43 92
The Half-ducat	w 23½	7 7½	20 27	21 96
Another Venetian coin	w 46	17 10	42 80	46 37
The piece of two Jules	B 6	3 15	11 54	12 50
The Ducat of Naples, or piece of 5 Ta- } rins or 10 Carlins	w 3	14 0¼	42 84	46 41
The Half-ducat	w 3	7 0½	21 42	23 21
The Tarin, or fifth part of the ducat ...	w 3	2 19¼	8 57	9 28
The Carlin, or tenth part	w 3	1 9¼	4 27	4 68
The Teston of Rome, or piece of 3 Julios ..	w 1	5 21½	18 19	19 71
The Ducat of Florence and Leghorn, } or piece of 7 liras	B 8	20 3	64 64	70 2
The Piaster or crown of Ferdinand II. } duke of Tuscany	w 1	17 12	54 —	58 50
The Piaster or crown of Cosmo III. } duke of Tuscany	w 1	16 18	51 69	56 —
The Croisat of Genoa	B 7	24 15	78 74	85 30

F I N I S.

Plate 1st

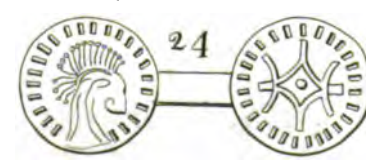
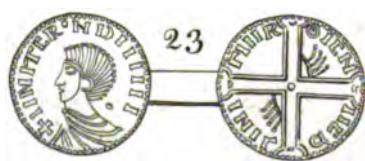
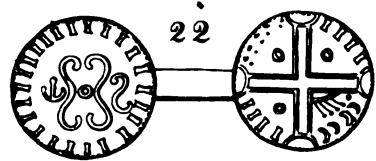
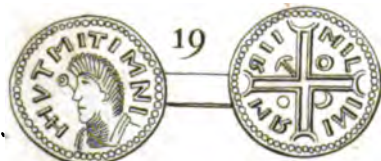
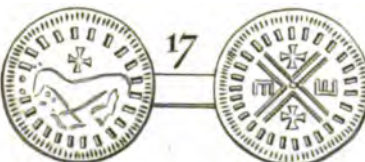
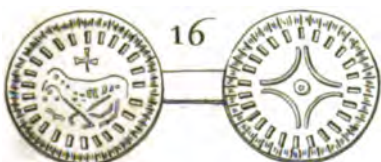
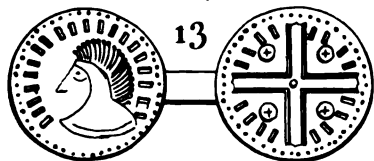
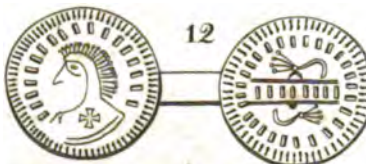
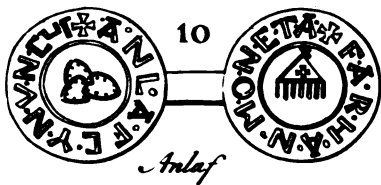
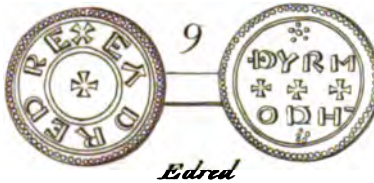
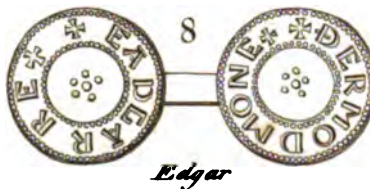
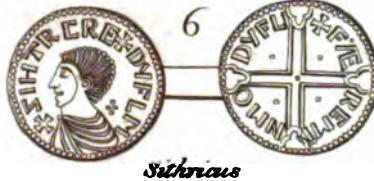
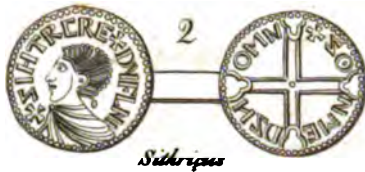
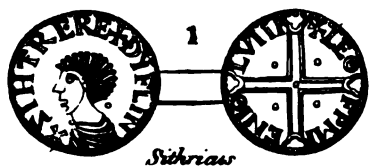
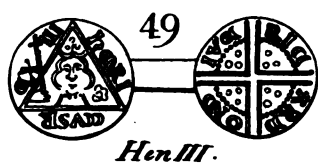
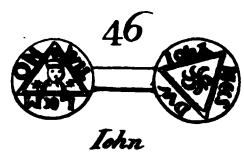
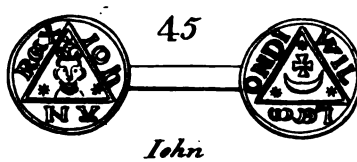
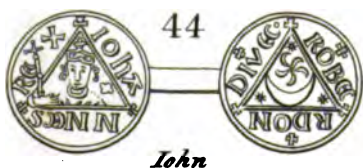
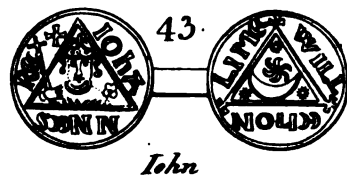
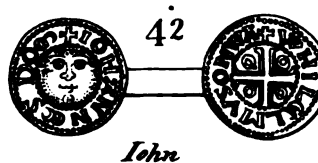
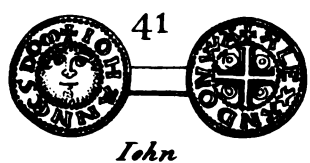
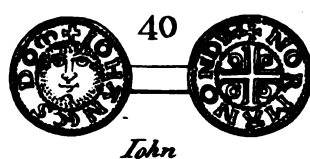
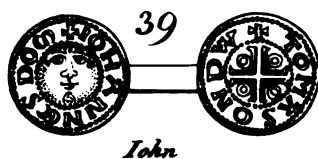
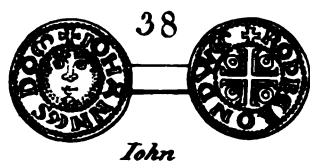
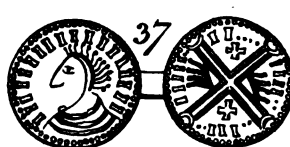
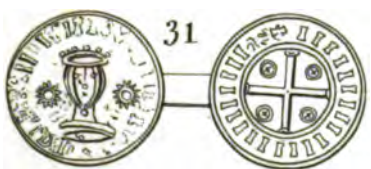
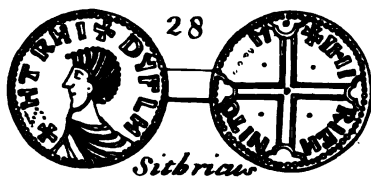
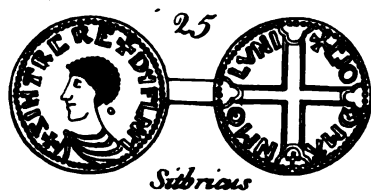


Plate 2nd



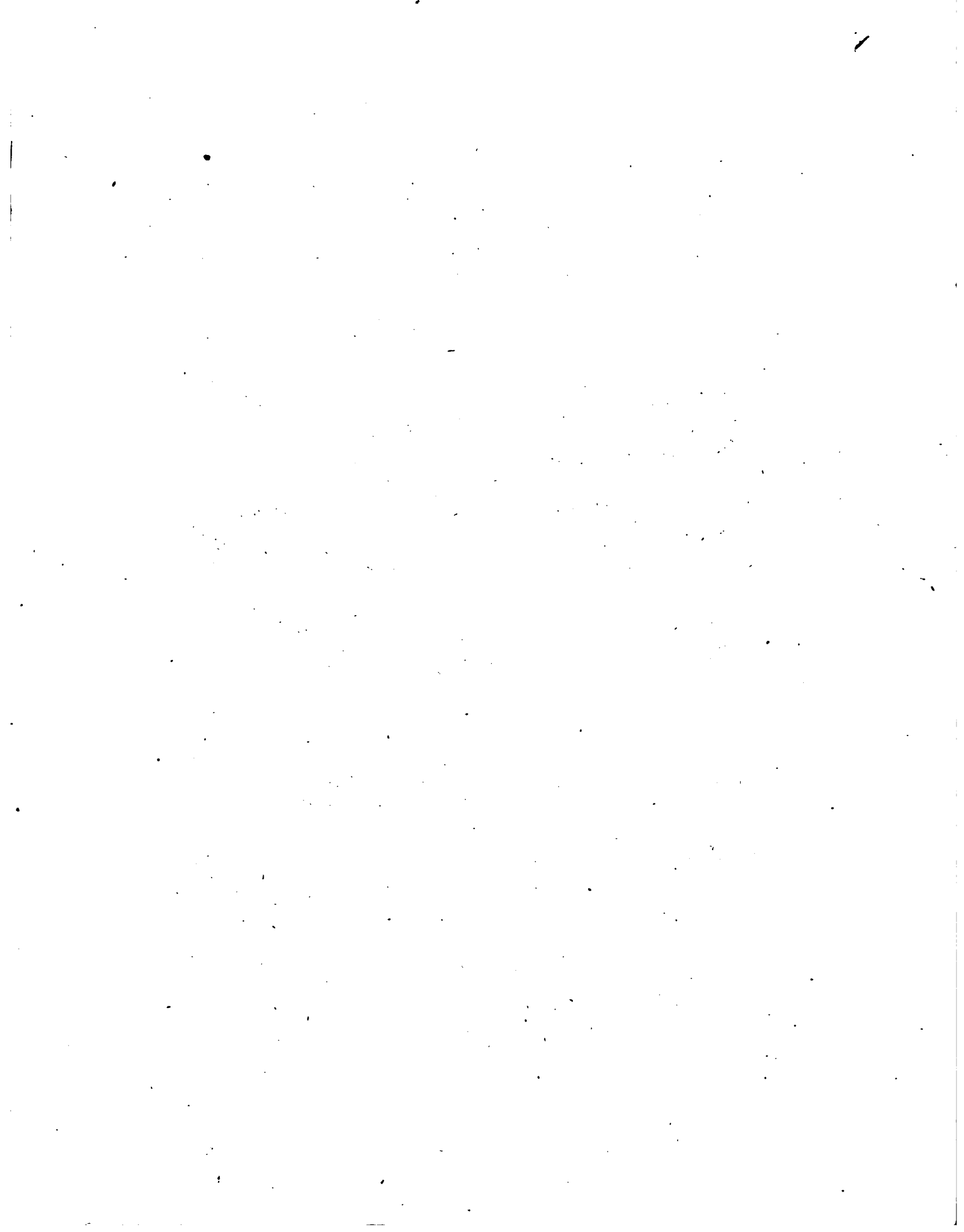


Plate 3rd

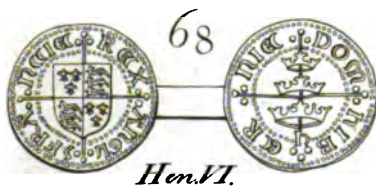
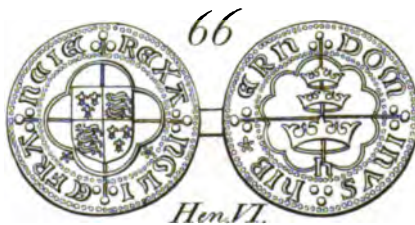
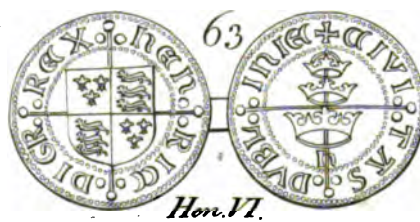
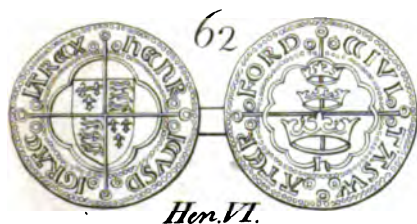
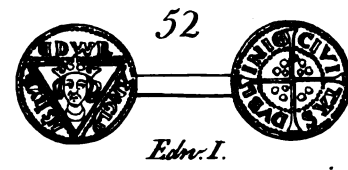


Plate 4^b

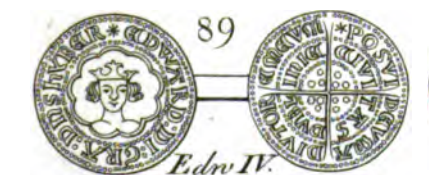
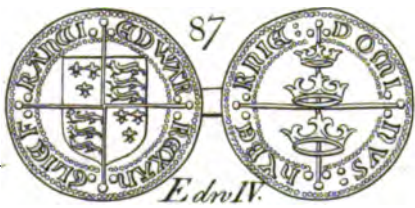
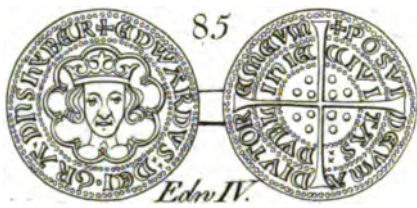
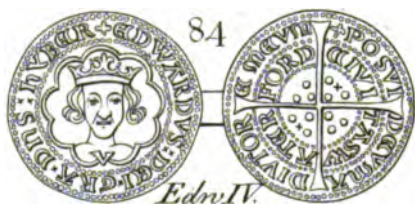
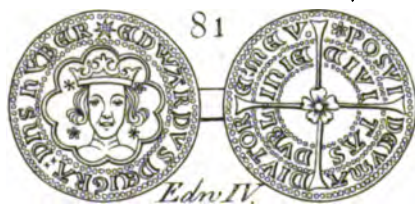
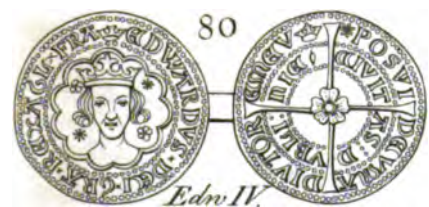


Plate 5th

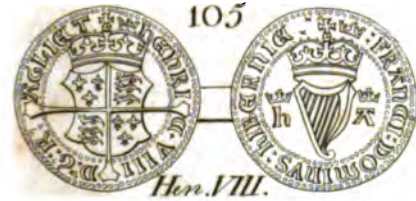


Plate the 6th

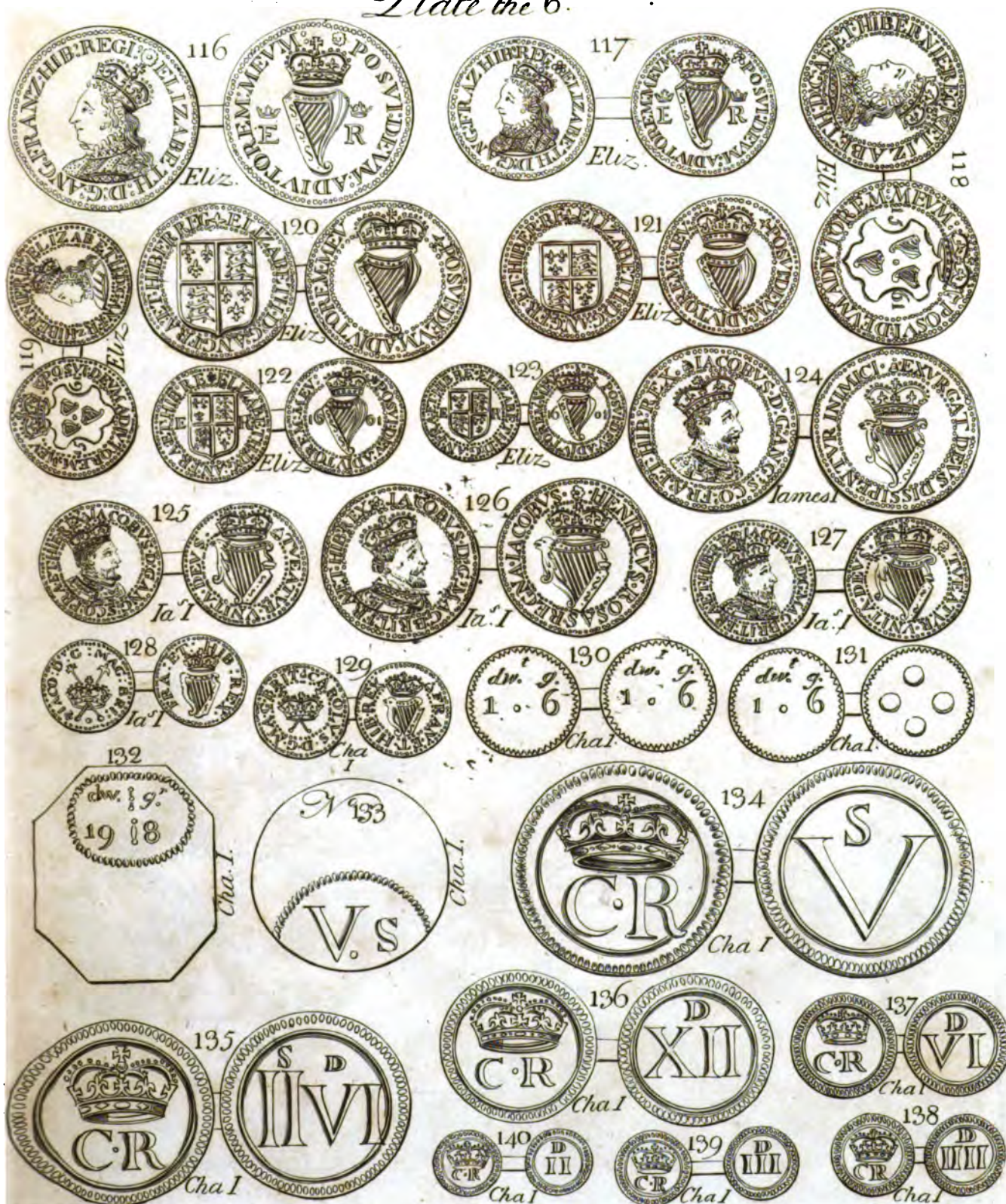


Plate 7th

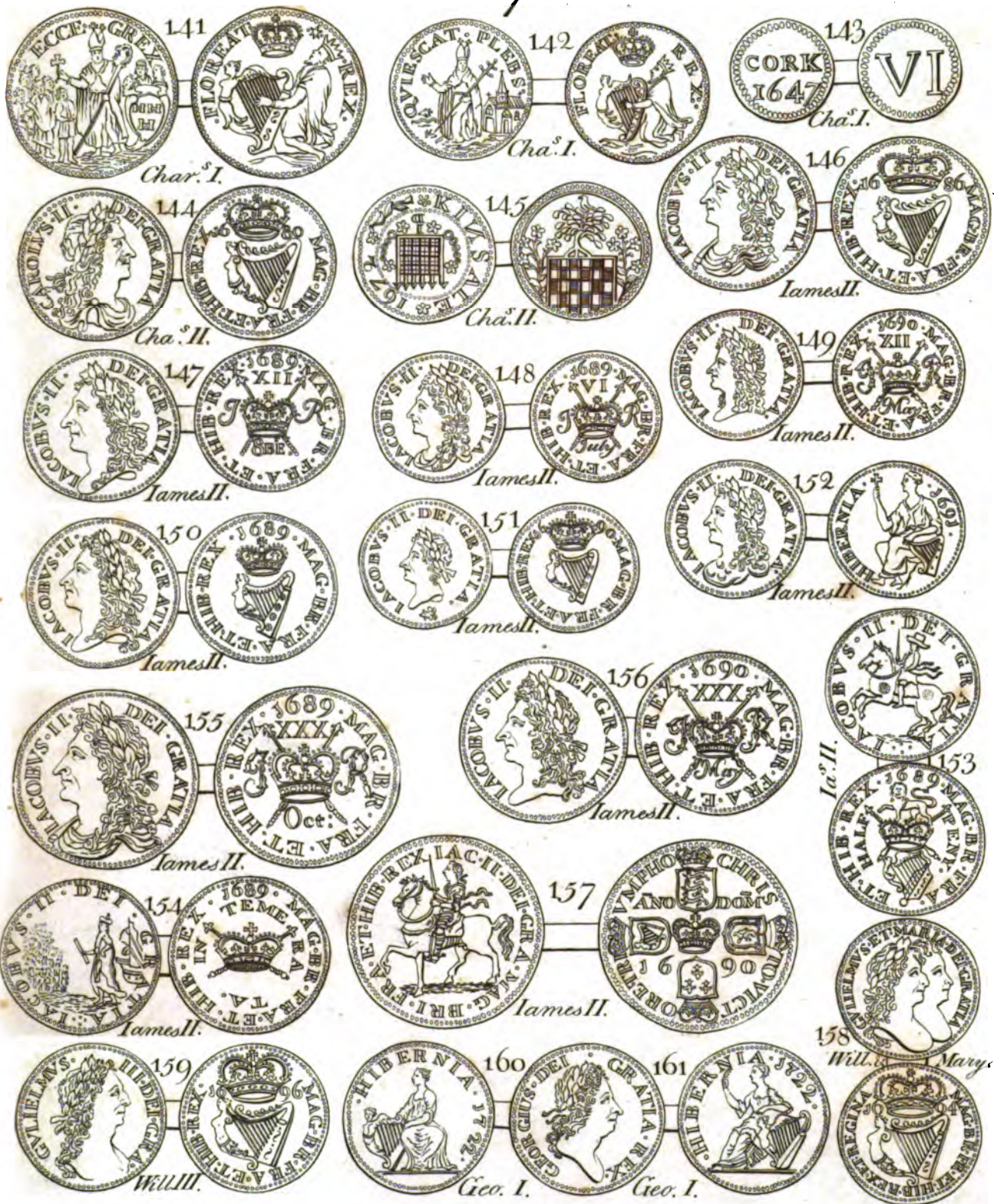
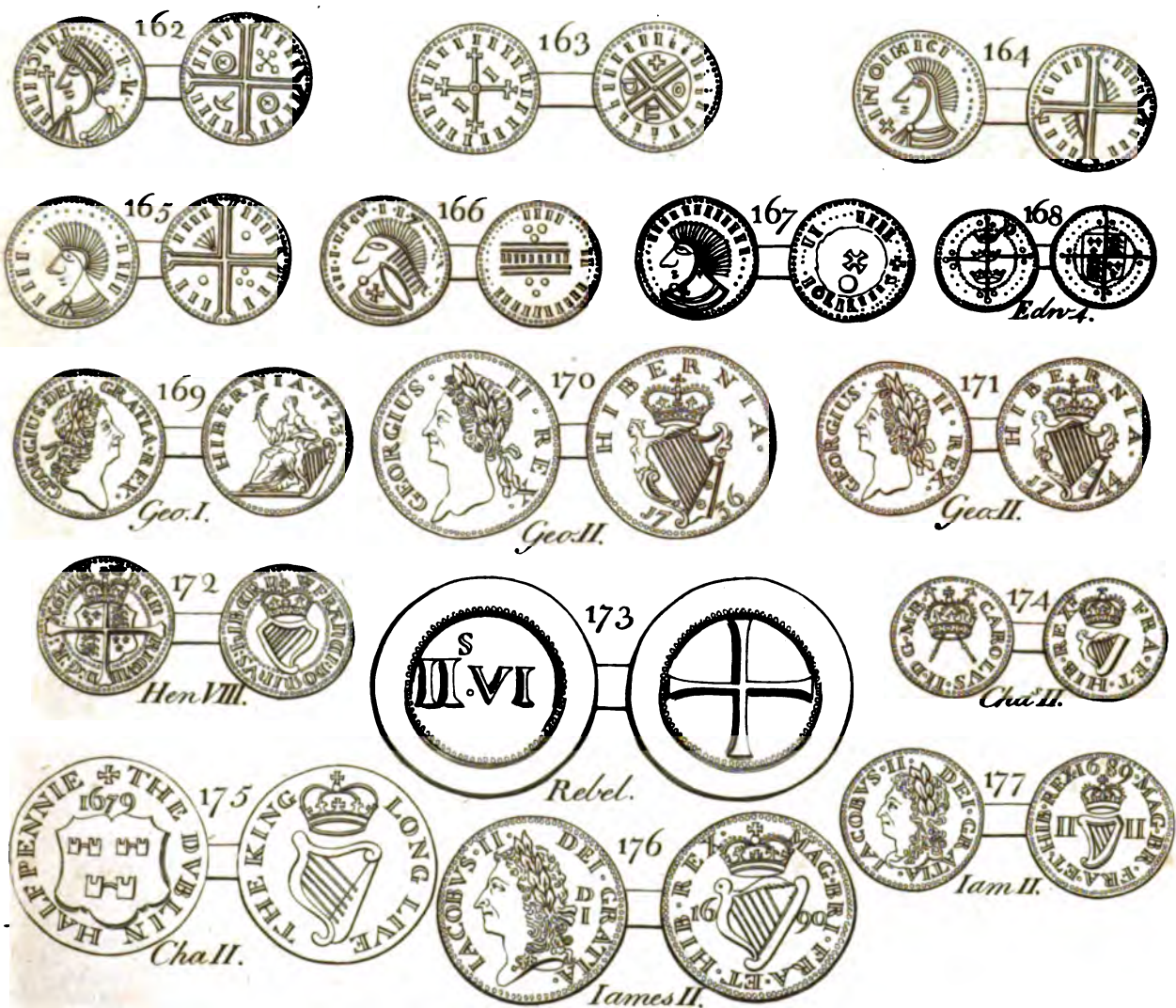


Plate 3th



To the R.^c Hon.^{ble} and Hon.^{ble} the President and
the Members of the Physico-Historical Society.
These Plates are most humbly Inscribed by
Their most Obliged & Obedient servant
James Simon

A
S U P P L E M E N T

TO
MR. SIMON'S ESSAY

ON
I R I S H C O I N S.

SINCE the publication of Mr. Simon's work on the monies of the Kingdom of Ireland, which was in the Year 1749, several coins of that country have occurred to us, not mentioned by that ingenious author, therefore highly probable were never seen by him, these we have put together in two plates, to which are joined another of Mr. Duanes, of their most ancient coins, which coins he purchased together with the plate, and has been so kind as to give us the liberty of using it upon this occasion.

Of this ancient sort, are also those in our first plate from Numb. 1, to Numb. 11, No. 1. to inclusive, many of which have strait strokes instead of letters, and those few which have had letters are obliterated; the only observation we shall make on them, is the barbarous and rude manner in which they have attempted to copy the Saxon and English coins of that age, thus the reverses of Numb. 7 and 9, are after Numb. No. 7, 9. 6 and 11, (a) of the conqueror, as is the head of Numb. 10 after Numb. 7 of the No. 10, same prince, (b) and Numb. 11 an helmeted one of Numb. 13 of Henry the first. 11. (c) Among Mr. Duanes, Numb. 16 is an uncouth copy of the Canopy Conqueror

(a) View of silver Coin, Pl. 1. (b) Ibid. (c) Ibid.

Numb. 6, (*d*) also Numb. 22 in the same Plate, and Numb. 31, Plate II. in Simon, are after Numb. 11. of Rufus, (*e*) and the reverse of Numb. 32 in the same plate of Simon like Numb. 12 of the Conqueror.

If we except the pieces of Sithric and a few more, none of these ancient coins which have inscriptions on them are now understood, although there are many very fair and the letters distinct, but badly formed, yet no word is to be made from them that will help us to the name of the King, moneyer, or place of mintage; a curious enquirer who shall hereafter attempt to decypher them, will find great assistance in having a number of them together, to consider and compare with each other, and we know of no cabinet so proper for such a purpose as that of Mr. Duane.

No. 12. What has been said in regard to the above-mentioned pieces may be applied to Numb. 12, as we have seen many, the letters of whose inscriptions have been fair, and plainly different from each other, yet do not discover where or by whom struck, nor do we know whether Irish or not, only that they are sometimes found both in Ireland and the Isle of Man.

EDW. I. We have met with two sorts of farthings of Edward the first, viz. Numb. 13, or II. struck at Waterford, and Numb. 14 struck at Dublin, neither of which Mr. No. 13, 14 Simon had seen, to which we have added the halfpenny Numb. 15, struck at Waterford.

HEN. VI. King Henry the sixth in his 38th year, being the last before his deposition, caused 1458. a groat to be struck, having on one side a crown without any inscription, and on the reverse the cross and pellets, with the name of the City round it, viz. CIVITAS DUBLINIE, of these Simon has given us two, viz. Numb. 61, Plate III. and Numb. 71, Plate IV. Immediately after which in the same year, a penny of this sort was ordered to be coined, which it is probable Simon never saw, as he has not engraved it, however we have been so fortunate as to discover one in the collection of Irish coins in the British Museum, viz. Numb. 26, exactly like the groat, and weighing nine grains and a half or about the quarter of it.

EDW. IV. Edward the fourth in his first year ordered an halfpenny and farthing to be struck, 1460. with the same type as the groat and penny above-mentioned, viz. a crown, but neither No. 17. of them have reached our days that we know of. In his third year, a groat, two-pence, and penny were ordered to be struck, which on one side was to have a crown as before, but round it was now to be added his name and titles, viz. on the groat, EDWARDUS DEI GRATIA DOMINUS HIBERN. on the reverse was to be the cross and pellets, and round them CIVITAS DUBLINIE, and round another circle POSTI DEUM ADIUTO. MEU. as appears on Numb. 17, which is a groat of this coinage, but do not remember ever seeing the two-pence and penny. Mr. Bartlet has one of these groats, weighing forty grains, and Mr. Hodsall another.

In the seventh year of this king we are told there was to be coined a piece called a double (i. e. gross or groat) as being to run current at that value, but to be of the same

weight as the last, and to have on its obverse like that, a crown with EDWARD DI. 7. EDW. GRA. DOMINUS HIBERNIE, but on its reverse was to be a rose and sun, there was also IV. 1467. to be the half, quarter, and eighth of it, not one of either of which sorts we have ever yet met with.

We have just observed a coinage recorded, no pieces whereof now remain, we now No. 18, come to one of which we have no other notice but from the pieces themselves, but 19. which however are very rare, such are Numb. 18 and Numb. 19, on their reverse we see a small cross within a rose of five leaves, and on the reverse the same small rose in the center of a sun of sixteen rays; round the rose on Numb. 19, is EDWARDUS DEI GRA. DOMINUS HIBE. and on the reverse CIVITAS DUBLINIE and POSUI DEU ADIUTORE MEU. that round Numb. 18, is clipped and obliterated; but had his titles abridged and only the name of the city.

The same circumstance attends Numb. 20, 21, and 22, as the last two, that is no No. 20, mention have been found of such a coinage, they have all on one side the head of the 21, 22. king; and on the other a large sun of fifteen rays, viz. a small rose in the center, fills the area. The largest or groat is inscribed EDWARDUS DEI GRA. HYBERN. on the two smaller, it is more contracted, and on the reverse of all three CIVITAS DUBLINIE divided by small roses, these pieces are all very rare, especially the penny and groat, which latter we think Mr. Simon had never seen. Mr. Dummer has a very fine one, weighing forty-one grains and a half, and we have one which weighs forty-seven grains, the penny and two-pence are in the collection of Mr. Hollis, the former weighing eleven grains and a half, and the latter twenty-two grains.

We would here just observe, that Mr. Simon in page 25, having described the coinage of the 7th year of this prince; viz. as having on their obverse a crown and on their reverse a sun, in the next page says, he has the groat of this coinage, but inconsistent with himself, describes it as having on its obverse the king's head, and not a crown, and refers to Numb. 72, Plate IV. which engraving likewise by some mistake or other, is as big again nearly as his piece, which was only a two-pence like Numb. 21, and weighed but twenty-two grains, again the penny he had, which he also refers to the same coinage, has a rose on its obverse (not a crown), as appears by Numb. 115, Plate VI. and like our Numb. 18, and belonging therefore to a different coinage from that of his seventh year; and that last described.

At the first sight of the head side of Numb. 25, it strikes us as an English penny No. 25. of Edward the second, its inscription EDWAR. R. ANGL. DNS. is a farther confirmation Plate 1. of it, but then its weight contradicts such an arrangement, being only fourteen grains and a half or not more than two thirds the weight of those pennies, altho' it is well preserved. When we see the sun on its reverse, we can think of its belonging to no other prince than Edward the fourth, however its weight agrees as little with this as the former supposition, being half as heavy again as the best of this kings pennies, it is likewise observable, that the sun on this piece has only eleven rays, whereas on all the others there are fifteen or twenty-four rays, beside which this piece has no rose in

7 Ed. IV. the center of it, nor is the inscription, CIVITAS DUBLINIE divided into four parts, by
1467. three small roses, as is the manner on all the others; this very rare piece is in the collection of Mr. Duane.

The money of Edward the fourth oftenest met with are his groats, with the head on one side, and the cross and pellets on the other, many sorts of which are engraved in his fifth plate, the half groats of this sort are not near so common as the great, Mr. Duane has one struck at Limeric which is not in Simon; the pennies likewise if well preserved, are rare, of the three already published by Simon, Numb. 91, No. 26. 92, Plate V. and Numb. 115, Plate VI. not one have a reverse like our Numb. pl. 1. 26, which has been shamefully clipt, and we apprehend is of that kind, which by the statute 19 Henry VII. are to pass for no more than an halfpenny, and described as having spurs or mullets between the bars of the cross, but we think they have more the appearance of roses than mullets. Mr. Simon has not published a single halfpenny of this king, but we have been so happy as to find two in Mr. No. 23, Dummer's collection Numb. 23, 24, belonging to the groats, Numb. 80, 81, 24. 82. Plate IV. each has a rose in the center of the cross, but much larger on one than the other.

RICH. III In Mr. Simon's appendix, Numb. 18, page 91, is a record which permits grosses, 1483. half grosses, deniers, and half deniers to be struck of this king, like those of his No. 27. brother Edward the fourth in his tenth year, which in page 84, are ordered to have pl. 1. his head on one side and a cross and pellets on the other; we have discovered a penny of this sort, or with the head, in Mr. Duane's collection, there are only on the obverse RIC. and on the reverse VILLA DROG remaining, it is much clipped and weighs about eight grains and a half, but its full weight should be about ten grains and three quarters, as there was to be eleven grosses to the lb. Troy.

HEN VIII King Henry the eighth in his 36th struck sixpenny and threepenny pieces, and 1544. Simon has given three of them, Plate V. Numb. 100, 101, 102, but makes no No. 28. mention of a three half-penny piece, Numb. 28 has occurred to us, now in Mr. pl. 1. Bartlet's collection, it weighs about nine grains and a half, is inscribed round the head, H. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINE, and on the reverse CIVITAS DUBLIN.

MARY, Mr. Simon has given us the shilling, groat and two-pence struck in the first 1550. year of queen Mary, and says it was probable that there were pennies of the same No. 29. coinage, he was right in his conjecture, as there is one of them, Numb. 29, in the Devonshire Museum, it is like the other pieces in every particular and weighs about twelve grains.

JAMES I. Besides the shilling and sixpence of James I. of the first coinage, with the bell mint mark, we have seen them with a martlet, and of the second coinage, besides those with a rose mint mark, we have met with others which had a martlet and an escallop shell.

CHAR. I. There was a great variety of coins struck during the troubles in Ireland under 1641. Charles the 1st. among which Numb. 31, with the value on one side and the cross No. 31. on the other, is usually called the rebels crown, the half crown of this sort appears

Numb. 173, Plate VIII. in Simon, who has also given the crown Numb. 133, Plate VI. with the value on both sides, belonging to which is the half crown Numb. 32, in our first Plate. Of the Inchequin money Mr. Simon has published two different groats, Numb. 130, 131, Plate VI. the last of which instead of having the weight on both sides as is usual, on one side has four annulets probably for as many pence. In the sixth supplemental Plate to Mr. Folkes, Numb. IV. is the three pence of this sort with three annulets, its weight it is likely was on the other side but does not now appear, however it is said to weigh twenty-two grains, its just weight being twenty-three grains. We have now added the six-pence, shilling and half-crown of this coinage, Numb. 33, 34, 35, the crown is to be found before in Simon, Numb. 132, Plate VI. to whose Cork six-pence, Numb. 143, Plate VII. we have added the shilling Numb. 30.

CHAR. I.
1641.
No. 32.

No. 33,
34, 35.

No. 30.

The half-crown and crown of Charles the II^d. Numb. 36, and 37, were first published by Mr. Folkes in his table of silver coins, Numb. 1, 2, Plate XXX. but he could never learn where or upon what occasion struck, neither have we been able to gain any intelligence relating to them, however we think from the manner of the pieces that they were struck in Ireland, and in the interval between his father's death and his own restoration.

CHAR. II.
No. 36,
37.

Copper coins by authority were introduced earlier in Ireland than in England, as is proved by the pennies and half-pennies, (Numb. 122, 123, Plate 6 in Simon) under Queen Elizabeth. The farthing tokens also of James I. and Charles were current here the same as in England, and discontinued in both kingdoms at the same time, and the want of small coins equally felt in each, until tradesmen and shopkeepers made their own tokens, but it does not appear they took this method so soon here as there, for we don't remember to have seen any of them dated before 1654, after which year we have observed the following dates, viz. 1656, 1657, 1658, 1661, 1664, 1667, 1672, 1674, and 1679, thus it is plain Armstrong's patent in 1660, and the proclamation in consequence of it, to forbid these tokens having a currency had no effect.

Copper
coins
plate 2.
Trades-
men's
tokens.

The towns we have observed where these pieces were uttered are Belfast, Cashell, Charleville, Clitheroe, Cork, Dublin, Dungarvan, Galway, Kildare, Kilkenny, Lisburne, Lymerick, Londonderry, Monrath, Pullhelly and Youghal, and no doubt but there are a great many more. However there were but very few cities or towns that struck them in their corporate capacity, being only Cork, Kinsale and Kilkenny.

The two first pieces in plate two are of Cork, the first probably an halfpenny, No. 1, 2, the other plainly a penny, as is Numb. 3 also, struck at Kilkenny, and is most remarkable for an inscription on its edge, of which nothing remains but the word RESURGO and is the only piece we have seen thus circumstanced, on Numb. 4, is inscribed FOR ye USE and CONVENIENCE—OF THE INHABITANTS and in the area KILKENNY HALF-PENNY with a date nearly obliterated, the four next are the most remarkable private tradesmen we have met with, Numb. 5, we may suppose is the crest of Thomas Lynch

No. 1, 2,
3.
pl. 2.

No. 4.

No. 5, 6,
7, 8.

CHAR. II. of *Lymerick* inscribed on the reverse, HIS HALFPENNY TOKEN, round the harp of Ireland, Numb. 6, is A PENNY TOKEN FOR NECESSARY CHANG of *Henry Coker of Drogheda*. Numb. 7, of *Richard Greenwood, Merchant*, in High-street, Dublin, has a St. Patrick on one side, Numb. 8, belonging to *Edmond Yeomans of Corke*, has on the reverse Adam and Eve, and we think it is their heads on the obverse, it is probable, the counter mark CHARLEVILLE was to give it a currency in that place as well as in Corke.

No. 38, We are possessed of two very odd pieces in brass like Numb. 38, 39 plate I. which
39. we think are of the token kind, and were struck here during the common-wealth,
pl. 1. having on one side their usual type of the cross and harp in two shields, the reverses are not so plain as we could wish, one of them has KER perhaps for Kerry, on the other only an E appears.

JAMES II. The gun money of James the second, we think commenced with the six-pence, as
gun-mo- it is the only piece with June 1689 on it, the other months found on them are July,
ney. Aug. Sept. 7ber. Nov. Dec. Jan. and Feb. Of the shillings there are of every month from July 1689 to June 1690 and one of Sept. 1690. Some are marked 8ber, 9ber, and 10ber, the second has a castle under the king's head, there are likewise of March and April both large and small. You have the half crowns from July 1689 to Aug. 1690 both inclusive as also another of Oct. 1690, there are also the large and small for March, April and May. We have of this king's tin money, a penny with his head Cæsar like as the half-penny in Simon, Numb. 151, Plate VII. but with I D behind it, the reverse is like Numb. 176, Plate VIII. with 16—90.

Geo. I. We have added a few different half-pence of Wood's not in Simon, on Numb. 24,
Wood's Hibernia is represented sitting on a rock with her face turned towards it, and we think
halfpence there is the farthing of the same, Numb. 25 and 26, have both of them the date
No. 24, 1724 in the exergue, different from any other, and very good work especially the
25, 26, half-penny, which is the finest broadest piece of his money we ever saw, and belongs
No. 27, to Mr. Bartlet, another half-penny has the Hibernia pointing up with one hand to
28. a sun near the top of the piece, the heads of Numb. 27 and 28 are the same as those of Numb. 25, 26, but we do not give them as coins but rather as a sort of jettons struck but are ignorant on what occasion the reverse we meet with on two or three different ones of Charles I. anno 1629.

Geo. II. There is no doubt but it was the want of small change that occasioned, persons in
promissa- trade to utter promissary notes, first in copper for an half-penny and a penny and af-
ry notes terwards for two-pence, and lastly others in silver for three-pence, and is we think
in copper the only instance of these sorts any where to be met with. The first piece we have
and silver seen is dated 1728 and runs thus PROMESARY NOTES, VALUE RECEIVED, DUBLIN, 1728.

JAMES MACULLA.

No. 9, 10 This was succeeded next year by another, Numb. 9, Plate II. more frequently
pl. 2. met with than the first, filled on one side with, I PROMISE TO PAY THE BEARER ON DEMAND 20 PENCE A POUND FOR THESE, and on the other side CASH NOTES, VAL. RECEIVED,

DUBLIN, 1729, JAMES MACULLA. Two years after, this was followed by Numb. Geo. II. 10, having round the figure of Justice seated between two pillars, I PROMISE 20 SHILLINGS POUND STR (sterling) 1731 and on the other side a fleur de lis, and CASH NOTES VALUE RECED, I. MACULLA. The six which follow each other from Numb. No. 16 to 22. 16 to Numb. 22 inclusive, are all copper and every one for two-pence, nor have we seen them of any other value except Numb. 15, which is only a penny. They all on one side promise to pay the bearer two-pence, some on demand, others not. Their obverses are filled with a crest or some other devise, Numb. 16, has a king's fisher with a fish in its mouth, no doubt in allusion to the persons name, without any inscription round it, but all the rest have one alluding to the figure on it, as under the dove with an olive branch in its mouth, Numb. 15, there is *Good Tydings*, the Peacock on Numb. 18 has round it *Youth and Beauty*, the rampant tyger, Numb. 21, is circumscribed with *Fierce and Strong* and so of the rest, as the Falcon, Numb. 19, *never without my prey*, the Hare, Numb. 20, *I make good speed*, &c. the only exception we have met with, is in that of *Will. Hall of Dromore*, which round a griffin, has FOR THE PARISH OF DROMORE being the only piece for a single parish, we have seen either English or Irish, this did not occur till the plate was finished or we should have inserted it there, we have also seen one of Tho. O'Brien of Lurgen, having a stag on a wreath without any letters but 2 P. both these last are dated 1736.

We have one very peculiar which has, *I promise to pay on demand two-pence John Gray*, stamp on a thin piece of brass. It is very probable that about this time Numb. 23 was struck which is made of lead.

The silver threepenny tokens are Numb. 11, 12, 13, the first of *Alex. Morton* of No. 11, *Armagh*, the second of *Samuel Mackie* of *Ithill* and the last of *John Overend* of ^{12, 13.} *Portadown* all of them uttered in 1736, Numb. 14 is the most remarkable having in the area of the piece, *Ben. Bowen, Dublin*, and round it *I owe the bearer 3d. ster.* the reverse has a stag at gaze, pierced through the back with an arrow.

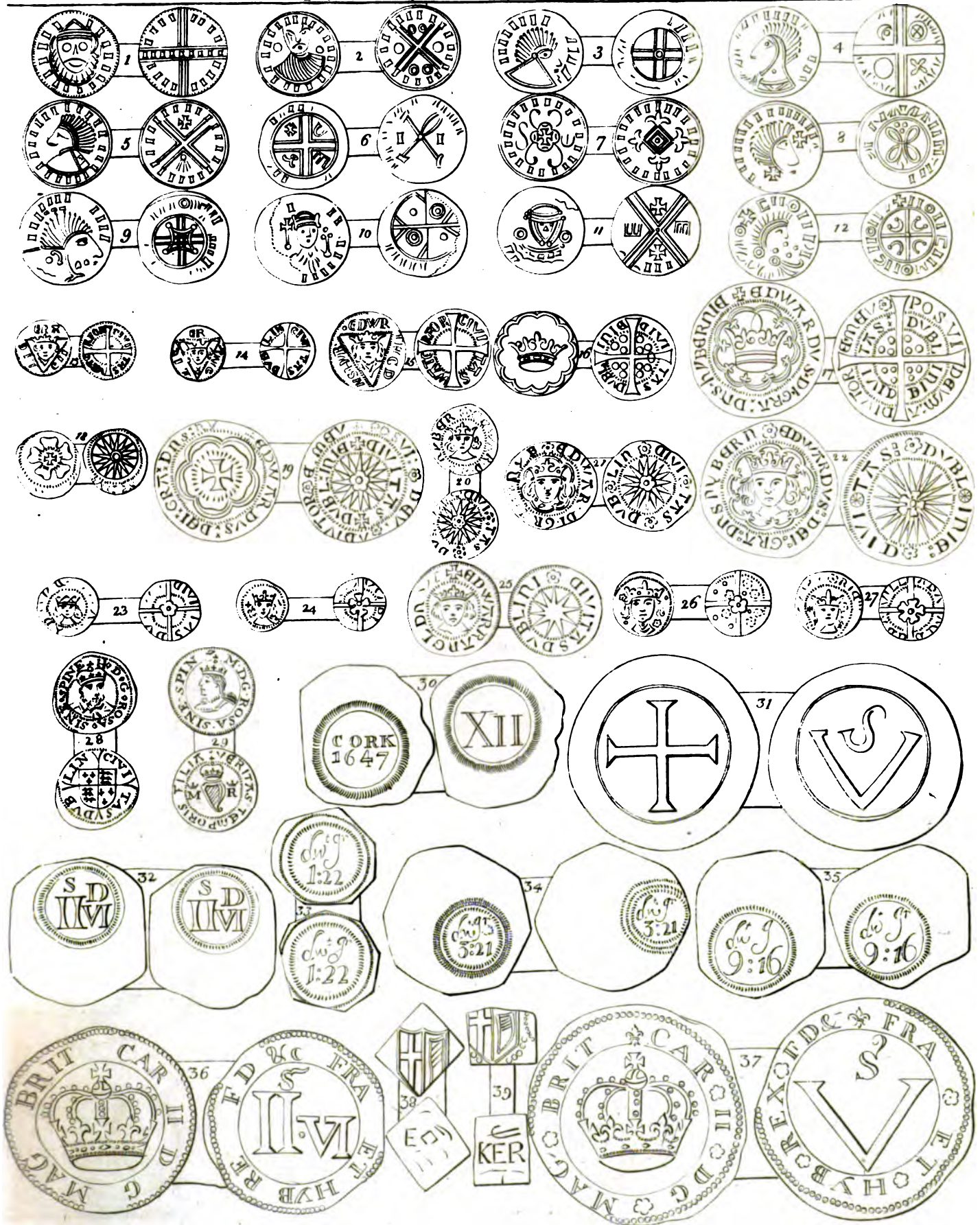
The copper-money now current in Ireland began to be coined in 1737, the first contract entered into was for fifty tons, which was compleated by 26th. Jan. 1739, the second contract was in March 1741 for a hundred tons, which were delivered between that and November 1749. In April 1750 a third contract was made for fifty tons, of which thirty-nine tons four hundred was delivered by the 31st. July 1753, being all that was coined of that contract. In September 1760 a fourth was entered into for fifty tons, which was compleated in April 1762, and all with the dyes of his late majesty.

In the year 1766 the fifth contract was made for fifty tons, and for halfpence only, ^{Geo. III.} a new dye being engraved for them, of his present majesty, (No. 29.) The sixth ^{1766.} and last contract was made in 1769 for fifty tons also, and has this year been com-

Geo. III. pleased all in half-pence, as the last. The expences of coining are nearly the same
1706. as in the English, the master being allowed five-pence per lb. weight, out of which he pays the moniers two-pence for coining, seven eights of a penny for barrelling, a farthing to the engraver, a farthing to the dye forger, and to his own deputy he allows twenty shillings per ton.

FINIS.

FIRST ADDITIONAL PLATE TO SIMON



SECOND ADDITIONAL PLATE TO SIMON

RESVRGO



ANCIENT COINS found in IRELAND

In the Possession of M.D. VANCE



Dymnree



Dymnree



Dymnree



Sathric



Sathric



Sathric



Nintre



M. du de G. du



Nordon



Ethelred



Ethelred



Ethelred



Liolfule



Siored



Snidfrid



16



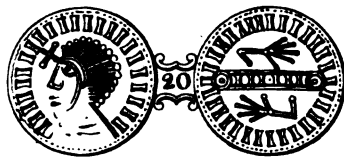
17



18



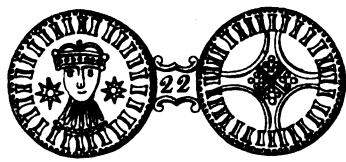
19



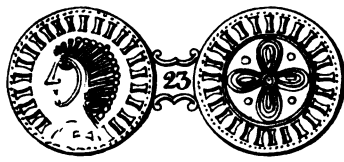
20



Erhart Sathric



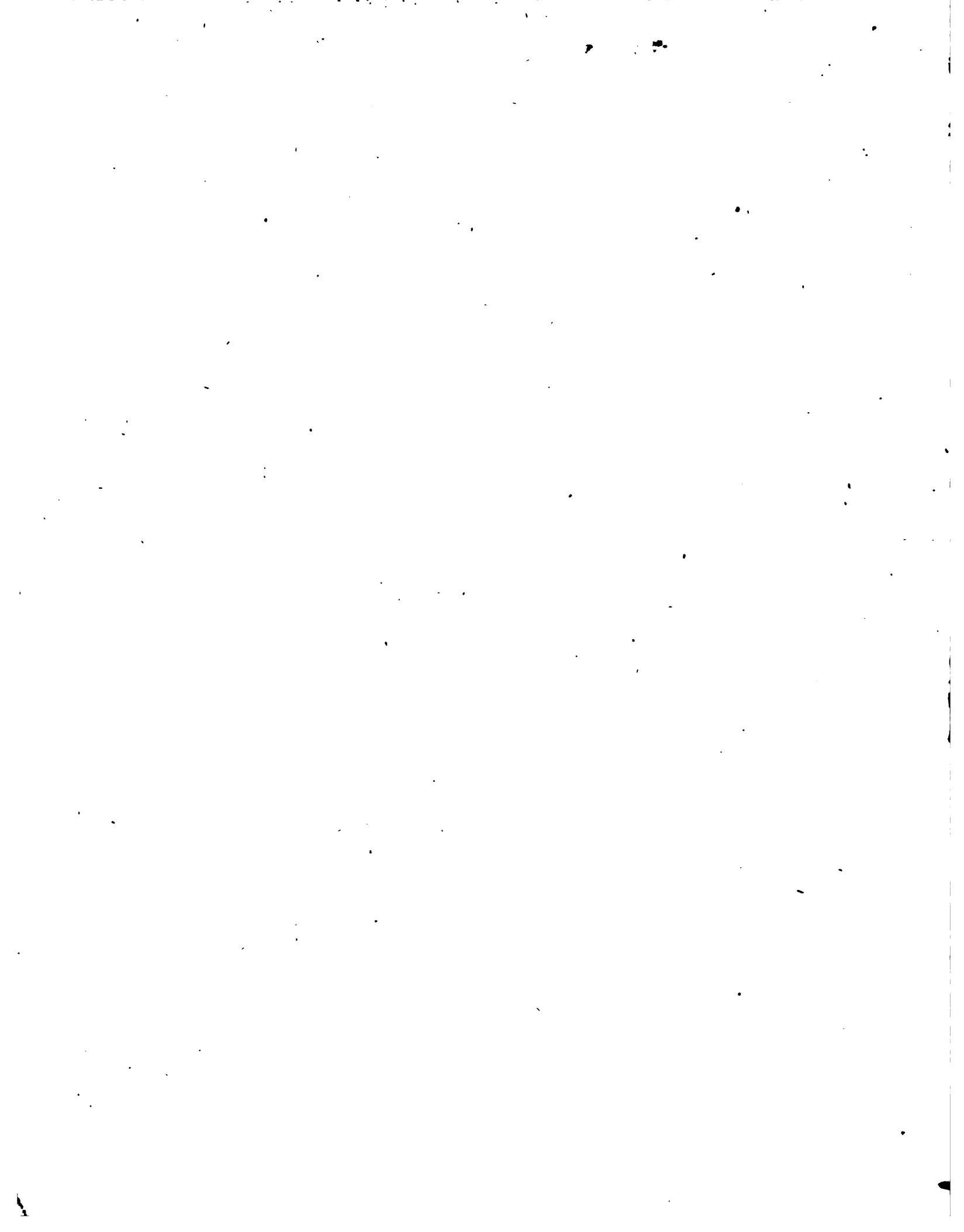
22



23



Hons



E X P L A N A T I O N

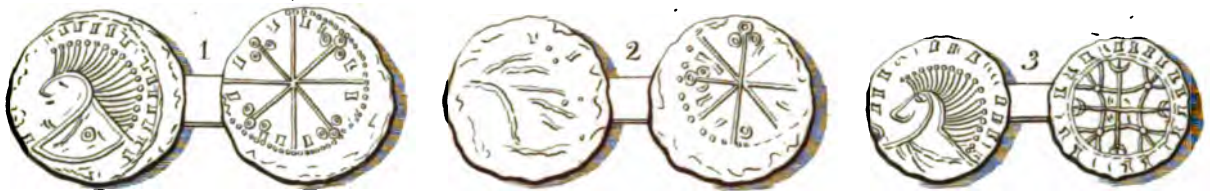
OF THE

EDITOR'S ADDITIONAL PLATE

TO

S I M O N.

Editor's ADDITIONAL PLATE to Simon



EXPLANATION

OF THE

EDITOR'S ADDITIONAL PLATE

TO

S I M O N.

NUMB. 1, 2 and 3, are coin of the 9th century. Numb. 1 and 2 differ from all No. 1, 2, we have before seen, in being extremely thin; and although as broad as an English 3. groat of the 15th century, weigh but $9\frac{1}{2}$ grains each.

Numb. 4, is a very rude coin, the type unusual, it is much worn and clip'd, and No. 4. weighs 12 grains.

Numb. 5 and 6, are well preserved, and the letters legible, yet we cannot guess to No. 5, 6. what Prince they belong, unless they are of Sihtric, King of Dublin. Numb. 5, is remarkable for an ornament which seems pendent from the ear, a like ornament appears behind the heads of Numb. 6, 8 and 9.

Numb. 7, we think, is of Sihtric, but the letters blundered by the artist, the No. 7. obverse reads ✠ ZNITCRIEX HF. the reverse NIRINNMEÐNI. that is *Nirinn Moneyer in Dublin.*

It has been asserted by an elegant writer, (Mr. Pinkerton) that these ancient coins No. 8. found in Ireland, with rude strokes round them, were fabricated by men too ignorant to be capable of reading or forming letters. Numb. 8, however, shews his mistake, for the artist who graved this coin could form letters perfectly well, though round one side he has put nothing but rude strokes—on the obverse the letters are very legible, and are IHFRZREX—probably Ifarus or Ivarus; the reverse has the cross as usual, but surrounded with crooked strokes; the workmanship is rather neat

No. 8; for that time: if this be a coin of Ivar, it is certainly one of the earliest inscribed coins that has yet occurred in the Irish series. Ware dates the arrival of Anlaf, Sihtric and Ivar in Ireland, A. D. 853. In Simon's 2d Plate, Numb. 34, is a coin which he gives to Ivar, the characters on which are very ill formed, and differs from ours, having letters on both sides.—Numb. 8, weighs $19\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and is in fine preservation.

No. 9. There is a great variety of these coins of Domnald or Donald.—Numb. 9, has an ornament behind the head similar to that on the neck of Numb. 5.

JOHN, A. D. 1177.

No. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. In the summer of 1806, a peasant digging near the high road at Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, turned up a metal pot of about a pint measure, which contained a large parcel of the full-faced halfpence of John, inscribed *Johannes, Dom. or Dominus*, and with them several farthings, of which Numb. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, are exact representations; they weigh each from $5\frac{1}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and have on one side an ornament, something in the shape of a Lozenge, and on the reverse a cross, with a letter in each quarter. Numb. 10, has N.O.R.M. which is an abbreviation of Norman, the minter's name—on Numb. 11 is TOMA. for Thomas—Numb. 12, has NICO. for Nicholas—Numb. 13, ALEX. for Alexander—and Numb. 14, ADAM—all which names occur on the full-faced halfpence found in the same measure. From these names agreeing with those of the mint masters on his halfpence, and as they were all dug up together, there cannot, we think, be a doubt of their being the farthings of his first coinage when Lord of Ireland, so long sought after.—The halfpence are published by Simon, Plate II. Numb. 38 to 42.

HENRY VI. 1458.

No. 15. In Snelling's Supplement, Plate I. Numb. 16, is represented a penny of this King, struck in his 38th year, exactly like the groats, published by Simon, Numb. 61, Plate III. and Numb. 71, Plate IV.—Our penny Numb. 15, which is of the first rarity, differs from them in having the crown without the compartment—it weighs nearly 9 grains.

EDWARD IV.

No. 16, 17. Mr. Simon, in his 4th Plate, Numb. 83, has given us a groat of Edward IV. struck at Limerick—the half groat, Numb. 16, and penny, Numb. 17, have never before been published; they are in good preservation—the $\frac{1}{2}$ groat weighs 15 grains, the penny $7\frac{1}{2}$ grains.

HENRY VIII. 1540.

Numb. 18, is the half groat of King Henry VIII. struck on his marriage with No. 18. Catherine Howard, in 1540. It has, like his groat of that year, the harp between the letters H. K. for Henry and Catherine. There is a half groat of this King, Plate VIII. Numb. 172, of Simon, who says in his Addenda, that it has the harp between the letters H. A. for Henry and Anne; the engraver, however, has omitted the letters.

ELIZABETH.

The base shilling and six-pence of Elizabeth's 43d year, appear in Simon's No. 19. Plate 120 and 121. Our Numb. 19, is the three pence of that coinage; it has suffered much by circulation, and weighs 13 grains instead of 17 grains, its original weight.



11 COINS—Smith (Aquila) The Irish Coins of Edward IV., plates, 4to, half calf neat, R.I.A.. 1839 6s 6d

275 IRELAND. Wood's Halfpence. A Collection of eleven broadsides dealing with Wood's halfpence, including the Daily Courant for April 10th, 1724, giving Orders in Council for an Essay of the Coinage and the same for Aug. 8th, 1724, with the report of the Council on Wood's Patent.—Harding's Impartial Dublin News Letter for Aug. 15th, 1724, with the declaration of the Dublin bankers not to receive or issue Wood's coins.—Proclamation of the Grand Jury of Dublin, presenting all those who attempt to impose Wood's coins on the country.—Some Considerations on the Attempts made to pass Mr. Wood's Brass Money in Ireland. By a Lover of his Country. Two leaves. 1724.—Declaration of the Brewers of Dublin refusing to receive or pay Wood's coins. [Aug. 1724].—Proclamation of the Council, offering £300 for the discovery of the author of A Letter to the Hon. the Lords of the Council, by M. B. Drapier. Oct. 27th, 1724.—Seasonable Advice to the Hon. the Lords of the Council, by the case against the printer of the Drapier's Letters. Nov. 1724.—A satire on Wood's halfpence. 1724 etc. 8 guineas

*Reflections on Irish money in Tref-Gued,
the Royal Voyage, 1690.*

3 Coinage (Irish) Nicholas Tyery's Proposals to Henry the Eighth, inserted in a MS. French Handbook of the year 1526, Edited by G. O. White Cooper and F. J. H. Jenkinson. 8vo, Cambridge, Antiquarian Soc., sewn, 1886 (10/)

18 Irish Coins.—An Essay towards a Historical Account of Irish Coins, and of the Currency to Foreign Monies in Ireland, with an appendix containing several statutes, Proclamations, Patents, Acts of State, and Letters relating to the same, by James Simon, of Dublin, Merchant, with a number of illustrations of coins, small 4to, half calf, Dublin, 1749

